Continuity Through Conservation II:

Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan Phase I, Background Studies
CONTINUITY THROUGH CONSERVATION II:
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
PHASE I, BACKGROUND STUDIES

1997

Prepared for:

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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and Community Development Block Grant funds.
Citizens of Huntingdon County:

The Huntingdon County Planning Commission is pleased to present this report, Continuity Through Conservation II - Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, Phase I. Background Studies presents a wealth of information about the County: people, economy, land, environment, housing, transportation, heritage, and infrastructure. The present report will provide the foundation for Phase II, The Comprehensive Plan.

I encourage you to review this report and to become involved in the planning process. Over the coming year, many meetings will be held to gather public input. The Huntingdon County Planning Commission desires to receive comments on the comprehensive plan from a broad cross-section of our population.

Sincerely,

Mildred Rockwell
Chair
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Introduction

Introduction to Huntingdon County
Comprehensive Planning
A New Comprehensive Plan for Huntingdon County
Continuity Through Conservation II
INTRODUCTION

Huntingdon County has experienced the paradoxes of economic growth and high unemployment, of abundant land and scarce developable land, of older declining communities and new residential developments, of numerous local governments but little local governmental management capability. While the Huntingdon County Commissioners have shown foresight and support in budgeting funds for a full-time planning staff, local resources are not sufficient to undertake a comprehensive plan update. An explanation of these paradoxes will provide significant insight in to the circumstances creating a critical need for an update of the County Comprehensive Plan.

Growth and Unemployment

Huntingdon County’s population grew at the modest rate of 4.5 percent between 1980 and 1990, from 42,253 to 44,164. Housing, however, grew at the rate of 14 percent during the same period! Not only has the population and housing stock grown, but the economic base of the county has grown as well. Employment grew from 15,338 in 1980 to 17,482 in 1990, an increase of 14 percent as service businesses mushroomed. This has been, due in part, to Raystown Lake and the growth of tourism in the county.

Unfortunately, unemployment has persisted at record high levels throughout the post war period. In 1996 2,400 workers were out of work. These workers constituted 12.8 percent of the county work force compared with a state unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. Recently, two long-time county firms announced plans to close: Dalco Industries has closed its Mount Union Plant (115 employees) after over 60 years of operation, and Elco has closed its Huntingdon Plant (115 employees) which had been in operation for 35 years.

Declining Communities and New Development

Despite overall growth, 24 of the county’s 48 municipalities suffered a loss of population. These 16 older boroughs and 8 rural townships face many of the same problems as our larger cities: declining tax base, declining economic base and substandard housing. Paradoxically, residential subdivisions are springing up all over the county. Huntingdon Borough added a new 255 lot subdivision in one year. Second-home developments litter the scenic hills surrounding Raystown Lake. In a typical year, 25 percent of all new housing consists of seasonal housing. Interestingly, these seasonal homes are often unaffordable by many local residents. Major new development pressures will come from the development of the Riverview Business Center near Mount Union and the redevelopment of the East Broad Top Railroad National Historic Landmark. While currently attracting only 12,000 visitors per year, the EBT is expected to attract over 100,000 within a ten-year period with the implementation of the report “Full Steam Ahead East Broad Top National Historic Landmark.”

Numerous Governments with Little Management Capability

Huntingdon County has 48 units of local government for a population of 44,164, an average of 920 people per locality. These consist of 18 boroughs and 30 townships of the second class. The county’s largest municipality, and county seat, is Huntingdon Borough with 6,854 people, and the smallest municipality is Coalmont Borough with 109 persons.

Few local municipalities have full-time management staff, relying on part-time staff, consultants and volunteer boards to manage the municipalities, enforce ordinances and provide services.

Transportation throughout the county is dependent on private automobiles. Intercity commutes for the county are difficult due to limited rail passenger service and a lack of scheduled air service in the county. County residents do not have direct access to the interstate highway system, but access it within 30 to 60 minutes of all areas of the county. Most county roads operate at an acceptable level of service but require major maintenance. County roads do not meet modern design standards and are therefore inadequate. County residents rely predominately on private facilities for fire, ambulance and recreational needs. The county’s ridge and valley topography makes travel (particularly east-west) difficult.

The county has no county-wide land development ordinances. While nearly all of the municipalities have a building permit ordinance, only 26 have a subdivision ordinance and only 6 have a local zoning ordinance. For example, county planning staff assists local municipalities on land use matters whenever possible. In 1989 Walker Township adopted a zoning ordinance and in 1994 Oneida Township adopted a comprehensive plan developed by the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department. Staff is currently assisting Marklesburg Borough with a comprehensive plan.

While Huntingdon County will continue to change in the future, it is extremely important that the growth that will occur be directed in a way that preserves the qualities that make the county a desirable place to live.

Comprehensive Planning

One of the first steps taken by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, upon its establishment on November 15, 1962, was the development of a comprehensive plan. Between 1967 and 1971 the first comprehensive plan was prepared by consultants Wilson, Polikowski, Heine and Simpson. It was titled Continuity Through Conservation and was produced in two volumes: Volume I, Background for Planning and Volume II, Concept for Plan Development.
The changes in Huntingdon County over the past 25 years, since the adoption of the first comprehensive plan, have not been sudden or dramatic, but they are substantial nonetheless. The county is now home to an expanded Raystown Lake and hundreds of new vacation homes. While maintaining its rural character, the county is plagued by some of the same problems identified in Continuity Through Conservation: high unemployment, loss of family farms, low household income and outdated infrastructure.

In an effort to provide a framework for shaping the kind of future that Huntingdon County residents desire, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission has begun the process of preparing a new countywide comprehensive plan.

**Definition and Purpose of the Comprehensive Plan**

The comprehensive plan has been the cornerstone of American planning theory and practice since the early 1900s. It is a document which contains the basic policies that will guide the future growth and development of the community. The plan is typically of a general nature, long-range in outlook, and includes all factors affecting growth and development.

The comprehensive plan serves three principal functions:

- The plan is a statement of goals, a listing of objectives, and a vision of what could be.
- The plan is an educational tool, helping everyone who uses it understand the conditions, problems, and opportunities of the community through the provision of factual information.
- The plan serves as a guide to public and private decision-making, thus, shaping the future of the community.

A comprehensive plan by itself is not a solution to all the problems and concerns of a community. The value of a well prepared plan, however, is derived from the process of preparing the plan and the implementation of the plan after it is prepared. The plan should focus attention on the major issues and concerns of a community and establish a basis for debate, discussion, and conflict resolution. The plan should never be regarded as a finished project, to be completed every ten years or so, but as a community-based planning process.

**Legal Basis for Comprehensive Planning in Pennsylvania**

In Pennsylvania, both county and local municipal governments have the authority to prepare and adopt comprehensive plans. This authority is contained in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act 247 of 1968, as amended. The MPC mandates that comprehensive plans contain certain basic elements. These elements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a statement of community development goals and objectives;
- a land use element;
- a transportation element;
- a community facilities element; and
- a statement of the relationship of the community’s future development to adjacent areas.

Section 304 of the MPC specifies the legal status of the county comprehensive plan within municipalities. It provides for review of certain municipal actions when the municipality is within a county that has an adopted comprehensive plan. The municipality’s governing body ( supervisors, commissioners or council) is required to submit proposed enumerated public improvement activities (e.g., erection of a new public structure) and land use regulations (e.g., adoption of a subdivision ordinance) to the county planning agency for review and recommendations.

Section 306 of the MPC addresses consistency among comprehensive plans. It states that municipalities that have their own comprehensive plans shall give consideration to other adopted municipal or county comprehensive plans in order to protect the objectives of each plan. The Act thus emphasizes coordination between municipal and county comprehensive planning.

It should also be noted that a comprehensive plan prepared in Pennsylvania is only an advisory document. It is not a development ordinance or a zoning map, and does not contain any rules and regulations. The plan, as an official document, however, does serve as a catalyst and guide for the development of various ordinances and other planning tools.

**County and Local Plans**

Both Huntingdon County and many of the county’s constituent municipalities have prepared and adopted comprehensive plans. As mentioned previously, these plans, prepared under Pennsylvania enabling legislation, are only advisory in nature and are not development ordinances. The difference between the county and municipal comprehensive plans is one of detail. The county plan is more general in nature, with land use being addressed on a regional basis and concerns of “county” importance addressed. Municipal level plans address land use at a tax parcel level and address specific local concerns. Planning may be done at an even more detailed level, with functional plans such as transportation plans or Act 537 sewage facilities plans in this category.
It is important that the county plan deal with issues of a regional nature, such as growth management, environmental quality, economic development and transportation. The municipal plans that have been prepared in Huntingdon County over the past decade have generally included only those issues specifically related to their own individual jurisdictions. In other words, a majority of local comprehensive planning stopped at the municipal boundary unless a joint comprehensive plan was prepared.

Examples of some of the major issues and concerns that will be dealt with in the plan include the location and extent of development, the location and timing of community infrastructure, environmental conservation and economic development. The new county plan will also strongly emphasize the need for an intergovernmental cooperative approach to solving regional problems and issues. Throughout the preparation of the plan, the public, organizations, and municipalities will be strongly encouraged to participate and become involved in the total comprehensive planning process.

Past County Comprehensive Planning Efforts
The adoption of the Plan in 1971 was followed by the hiring of the first planning staff. Today, five full-time employees comprise the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department staff: Planning Director, Planner/Grant Administrator, Planning Technician, Bookkeeper, Secretary. The full-time staff is supplemented with one or two planning interns during each summer. The staff is charged with advising the Huntingdon County Planning Commission and Huntingdon County Commissioners on a variety of planning issues, maintaining the comprehensive plan and implementing the comprehensive plan. The Planning and Development Department also administers various state and federal grants related to community development.

Throughout the 1970s the local planning staff prepared many planning studies in order to keep the comprehensive plan up to date. These "technical reports" were usually funded by the federal 701 Planning Program. The Huntingdon County Planning Commission usually followed these technical reports with an update of one or more elements of the comprehensive plan. Several other important planning studies which were completed by the county in the past decade are also listed below. The last of the 701 funded planning studies was completed in 1982. Following are the most current updates of the comprehensive plan. Adopted plan elements are marked with an asterisk (*).

- 1978 Community Facilities Plan *
- 1978 Sewer and Water Plan *
- 1978 Conservation Plan *
- 1979 Economic and Employment Plan *
- 1979 Open Space and Recreation Plan *
- 1979 Land Use Plan *
- 1980 Transportation Plan *
- 1981 Energy Policy and Plan *
- 1982 Countywide Development Goals *
- 1989 Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon Solid Waste Plan
- 1996 Huntingdon County Preservation Plan
- 1996 Huntingdon County Transportation Study

The Planning Commission has encouraged local municipalities to form planning commissions and to develop local and regional comprehensive plans. The county has supported local municipal planning through staff technical assistance and grant writing for local planning funds.

Since 1994 Huntingdon County has been developing a Geographic Information System (GIS). While this may not traditionally be considered an implementation document, it will be an integral part of the comprehensive plan. In 1994 the county entered into a contract with the Spatial Analysis Research Center at Indiana University of Pennsylvania for the development of a GIS. The present GIS is based on USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle maps which are available from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. This data, which is already available in GIS format, will greatly facilitate the development of the comprehensive plan.

A New Comprehensive Plan for Huntingdon County
Change is inevitable! Planning is a systematic, creative approach to manage change in our communities. It is directed toward the future by analyzing trends in land use and community development. Communities which anticipate change and plan to address the opportunities presented by change will be better communities. Through the planning process, the county can analyze problems, visualize futures, compare alternatives and describe the implications of various choices so that citizens and public officials can make knowledgeable choices. Through careful planning, our communities can make wise use of scarce resources - both natural and financial.

Background - Why a New Comprehensive Plan?
As discussed previously, the county's first comprehensive plan, Continuity Through Conservation, was a success in that it was the first effort to complete comprehensive planning on a countywide scale. The plan did a good job of identifying existing
problems and offering specific solutions. However, a comprehensive plan needs to be periodically reviewed and updated to ensure that its goals and recommendations are still relevant and realistic. Since 1982, the county has not had the staff or financial resources to keep the comprehensive plan current. In the twenty-six years since Continuity Through Conservation was adopted, the county has experienced many changes. Local citizens, elected officials and the Planning Commission agree that it is now time to update the county’s policies related to the complex issues surrounding future development in the county, and to adapt the new plan to meet the changing needs of the county’s residents.

The Process for Developing a New Comprehensive Plan
The Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan will be updated in three phases: Phase I will include what are commonly called background studies. Phase II encompasses the development of the plan based on both the background studies and extensive public participation, and Phase III includes the adoption and implementation of the plan. Phase I will be carried out during 1997, and it is anticipated that Phase II will be developed in 1998 and Phase III in 1999.

Phase I includes a study of the following elements: Land Use, Housing, Population and Demographics, Economy, Environmental Conservation, Infrastructure and Community Facilities, Transportation, Heritage and Cultural Resources, and Intergovernmental Cooperation.

At the conclusion of Phase I the formulation of the Comprehensive Plan will begin. The plan addresses the following elements: Land Use, Housing, Economy, Infrastructure and Community Facilities, and Transportation. An Implementation Strategy will be formulated which will review specific strategies and ordinances and make recommendations as to which are more suited to Huntingdon County.

Additionally, a five-year Implementation Plan will be prepared that will include the major recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. Upon completion, following public notice, public meetings, and a public hearing, the Comprehensive Plan will then be officially approved and adopted by both the Huntingdon County Planning Commission and the Huntingdon County Board of Commissioners. It will then be recognized as the official Comprehensive Plan for Huntingdon County under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247, as amended. The foregoing process will conform with the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code, Act 247, as amended by Act 170 of 1988, and subsequent amendments.

The development of the new comprehensive plan will be a highly participatory process. The entire community, including individuals, organizations, and municipalities, will be encouraged to participate and become part of the overall planning process. A special Comprehensive Plan Committee will provide review and comment on draft plan elements for the County Planning Commission.

Several major steps were taken to advance the comprehensive plan in 1996: The Huntingdon County Heritage Plan was published and distributed in the fall of the year. In cooperation with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, a Huntingdon County Transportation Study was completed. The county also applied for and received a State Planning Assistance Grant to fund the update of the comprehensive plan.

The completion of the Huntingdon County Heritage Plan marked the end of a two-year planning process. Funded by a grant from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission, the Plan identifies significant historic preservation issues and proposes activities intended to conserve, market and develop the county’s historic resources. The results of this planning effort will be incorporated into the new comprehensive plan.

The Huntingdon County Transportation Study marks an important milestone in transportation planning in Pennsylvania. It represents a cooperative effort among Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset Counties, the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to develop local transportation plans. This study is significant in that PennDOT allowed the downloading of several of its databases into a regional transportation information system. This information was then used, in conjunction with maps, to develop an analysis of the transportation system within Huntingdon County. This analysis will be used to develop the transportation section of the comprehensive plan.

Continuity Through Conservation II
It has been decided to title this comprehensive plan Continuity Through Conservation II. This is because of our strong belief that our county and its communities can be better places to live only if we conserve the best from our past. Development is necessary to accommodate the growing number of persons who live in Huntingdon County. This development needs to be shaped by our natural, historical, economical, social, and spiritual heritage. Therefore, the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan will strive to maintain continuity between the past and the future through conservation.

Phase I, Background Studies
The current planning effort began when Planning and Development staff developed and submitted an application for State Planning Assistance Grant (SPAG) funds in April of 1996. The county received notice that its grant request was approved in late summer.
During the fall, the Planning and Development Department advertised for and received consultant proposals for the preparation of the Plan. In late November the Huntingdon County Commissioners approved the retention of the firm of Richard C. Sutter & Associates to prepare Phase I, Background Studies of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan.

The Background Studies report has been developed by the consultant and the staff of the Huntingdon County Planning Commission. It has been reviewed by a special Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee over the course of nine months and by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission. This report involved gathering data from many sources including the data developed by the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department staff. Every effort has been made to identify data sources for anyone who desires to do more in-depth research on a specific subject area.

Finally, it is important to note that the Background Studies report is not a policy document but will serve as the foundation for the development of Phase II, the Comprehensive Plan.
Land Use

Land Use Characteristics: An Overview

Existing Land Use Characteristics
- Rural Residential
- Urban Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Strip Mines and Quarries
- Public/Semi-Public
- Agricultural
- Streets and Highways
- Forests
- Public Lands
- Water
- Municipal Ordinances
LAND USE ANALYSIS

Land Use Analysis 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. Although the land use pattern of each community is unique, all patterns contain three basic classifications of land use: residential, commercial, and industrial. In classifying the land use of Huntingdon County the three basic classifications have been expanded and classifications for public and semi-public uses, forest, water resources, agricultural, strip mines and quarries, and public lands have been added. The following land use categories have been chosen to cover all the land use activities existing in Huntingdon County: residential, commercial, industrial, strip mines and quarries, public/semi-public, agricultural, streets and highways, forest, public lands, and water resources. 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 1 - Existing Land Use and Table 3 - Existing Land Use.

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.

- Commercial - includes land sustaining retail, wholesale, office, 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.
- Strip Mines and Quarries - includes lands dedicated to mining and quarrying, including coal strip mines, limestone quarries, and sandstone quarries.
- Public/Semi-Public - includes uses such as municipal buildings, churches, schools, fire companies, cemeteries, recreational facilities, and other similar civic uses.
- Agricultural - includes lands dedicated or formerly used for farming activities. Includes some rural residential occupied land.
- Streets and Highways - comprised of land devoted to streets, sidewalks, alleys, and associated public rights-of-way.
- Forest - includes land which is covered by deciduous and/or evergreen vegetation, and timberland.
- Public Lands - a subdivision of forest land, including State Game Lands, State Forests, Penn State University lands, and Federal lands.
- Water - includes areas covered by water classified as rivers, streams, canals, lakes, and ponds.

Existing Land Use Characteristics
Land use statistics have been drawn from several sources including: Land Satellite Cover data from the US Geological Survey, Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department’s Major Subdivisions Since 1976, PA Department of Transportation Centerline Road Files, the US Department of Agriculture, PA Department of Parks and Recreation (DCNR), ArcView 3.0 calculations, and local knowledge. The land use section is a general guide designed to estimate the current uses of the land resources in Huntingdon County, not a parcel based study with highly accurate locations of land use categories. The results are shown on the next page, Map 1 - Existing Land Use and
explained throughout this chapter.

**Rural Residential**

In the last few decades the rural townships have been Huntingdon County’s primary growth areas. For most of the past 20 years this growth has occurred in the form of large subdivisions, which are represented in Table 1. Since 1976 nearly 13 square miles of the county have been subdivided, a large majority of which is in low density rural residential land. This study does not provide for the rural residential development on the land use map; nor does it have an accurate count of the total development of that type. Only subdivided land is accounted for. This rural residential development figure is not included in the land use map because of a lack of accuracy involved in land estimations. However, the next section does attempt to estimate the new development in residential lands since 1970.

**Urban 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. 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 12,839.5 acres, or 2.3 percent, of the county’s total land area of 568,840 acres.
- Huntingdon County’s developed areas are largely dedicated to agricultural uses, with residential development occupying only 8.8 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 55.2 percent of developed property. If strip mines and quarries are also excluded, housing occupies over 61 percent of the total physically-improved areas. This figure is slightly lower than expected.

Estimations for housing areas could be undercounted slightly. Table 1 provides information about major subdivisions reviewed by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission. The total number of parcels and total acres do not represent houses built but, rather, approved subdivisions. For this reason, and to attempt to estimate the number of residential acres of developed land, the number of subdivisions with an assigned tax parcel number was used. This final figure is believed to be an accurate estimation of the land used in Huntingdon County for residential purposes.

Nearly 10,000 residential parcels have been approved since 1976. The total number of acre, in lots, from these subdivisions is 8,329.0 acres. These acres were included as rural residential in the land use table.

The subdivision survey on the next page was conducted over a three year period by the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department in cooperation with the Huntingdon County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission reviews all proposed subdivisions within the county for preliminary approval. The result is a list of proposed subdivisions. The table provided is not the complete list of approved subdivisions but, rather, the subdivisions with assigned tax parcel numbers. Consequently, a more accurate representation of actual development, rather than all possible development, is provided. Keep in mind when reviewing the list that these are proposed subdivisions; all masses may not result in developed areas. Also, many of the subdivision land masses are misleading due to the existence of farms subdivided by their owners for a single house, etc.
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
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</table>
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, barber shops, 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.

- Total commercial land uses occupy 540.5 acres or .1 percent of the county’s gross area and just over .4 percent of the total developed area.
- Excluding agricultural land, commercial development occupies 2.3 percent of developed land in the county. This figure is most likely underestimated by the GIS calculations by 50 to 60 percent.

Industrial

A single industrial category is recognized in the county. It includes industrial operations which 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 496.4 acres or .1 percent of the gross area and .3 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 2.1 percent of the developed land. Again, the GIS estimates are most likely underestimated by 50 to 60 percent.

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 and inactive, are included.

- Strip Mining activities in the county have been dormant since the 1950’s; however, land still occupied by strip mines or quarries amounts to over 1,450.3 acres in Huntingdon County. This translates into .3 percent of the total land and .7 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.
Public/Semi-Public
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, fire houses, post offices, libraries, museums, school, parks and playgrounds. State Corrections, county fairgrounds and public schools occupy most of this land.

Areas classified as semi-public 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.

- Public and semi-public lands occupy slightly over 986 acres in the county. This amount of land is equal to 2 percent of the total land mass and 4.2 percent of the developed land, less agriculture.
- The majority of this land occurs in the Huntingdon area, 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 21.5 percent of its total land mass or 84.1 percent of developed areas dedicated to agricultural uses.
- A significant amount of agricultural lands are located in Todd and Cass Townships, bordering on State Forest land. The north is also heavily laden with agriculture in Logan, West, Barree, Morris, Franklin, and Warriors Mark Townships.
- Huntingdon County has a significant amount of Agricultural Security Areas, all of which have been registered since 1989. The Huntingdon County total is 54,145 acres, or 441 tax parcels, which is equal to 41.06 percent of all agricultural land and 9.45 percent of the total land mass of Huntingdon County.
- All agricultural security area locations and tax parcels are not known prior to 1989. Table 2 lists pertinent data on the Agricultural Security Areas registered since 1989.

Streets and Highways
Areas classified in this category include the right-of-way of all public dedicated streets and highways in the county except for private roads and Jeep or forest roads. For this study the number of acres of street and highway coverage was estimated by multiplying the miles of roads (1,770) by feet per mile and an average 30-foot right-of-way, then dividing the total number of feet of roads by 43,560 feet to arrive at a total number of acres covered by streets and highways. All data on road mileage was gathered from Penn DOT centerline files. Their information comes from data gathered from individual municipalities annually for liquid fuels funds distribution.

- Huntingdon County has slightly over 1,200 miles of state operated and maintained streets and highways; 506 miles of township roads, and 64 miles of borough streets, for a total of 1,770 miles.
- The total land coverage by roads and highways is 6,924.0 acres. The figure is most likely undercounted to a small degree. Nevertheless, the total land covered by roads and highways in the county is 1.2 percent of all the developed land in the county.
- The amount of road and highway coverage, excluding agricultural lands, is much higher at 29.8 percent of the developed land.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tax Parcels</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell</td>
<td>12-25-91</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>2,352.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>12-12-90</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>3,348.0</td>
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<td>Franklin</td>
<td>9-12-89</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>10,787.1</td>
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<td>Morris</td>
<td>4-4-96</td>
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<td>3,104.7</td>
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<td>Penn</td>
<td>4-14-92</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>2,862.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter</td>
<td>12-14-95</td>
<td>46.0</td>
<td>2,228.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shirley</td>
<td>12-11-92</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>2,858.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spruce Creek</td>
<td>1-5-90</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>2,226.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tell</td>
<td>3-16-91</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>4,739.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>10-12-95</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>4,772.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark</td>
<td>5-11-89 &amp; 7-1-96</td>
<td>155.0</td>
<td>14,866.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>441.0</td>
<td>54,145.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
Overall, public lands occupy nearly 24.3 percent of the county’s gross area. See Table 4.

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. Other small lakes and streams cover 2,720.1 acres. According to the calculations performed from the GIS Land Use map there are a total of 11,020.1 acres of Huntingdon County covered by water.

- Water occupies over 11,020.1 acres of land, classifying it as the third largest land use in the county, covering nearly 2.0 percent of the total land area. The vast majority of the water is concentrated in the federal lands of Raystown Lake.

(left intentionally blank)
### TABLE 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Acres (GIS)</th>
<th>Percent of County</th>
<th>Percent of Developed Land</th>
<th>Percent of Developed (less agriculture)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Residential</td>
<td>4,510.5</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Residential*</td>
<td>8,329.0</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>540.5</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>496.4</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strip Mines/Quarries</td>
<td>1,450.3</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public/Semi-Public</td>
<td>986.3</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streets and Highways**</td>
<td>6,924.0</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL DEVELOPED (Less Agr.)</td>
<td>23,237.2</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>122,504.3</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL DEVELOPED</td>
<td>145,722.1</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest (open wooded land not including public lands)</th>
<th>282,094.8</th>
<th>49.6%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Lands (See Table 4)</td>
<td>129,983.6</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Resources***</td>
<td>11,020.1</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL UNDEVELOPED</td>
<td>423,098.5</td>
<td>74.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COUNTY</td>
<td>568,840.0</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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: streets and highways.**

** 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 Commision (GIS Data)

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

### TABLE 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Percent of County</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Forests</td>
<td>68,260.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Parks</td>
<td>1,148.8</td>
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<td>State Game Lands</td>
<td>33,512.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Lands - Raystown Lake Project</td>
<td>20,949.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raystown Lake Water Coverage</td>
<td>8,300.0</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn State</td>
<td>6,750.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Penitentiary</td>
<td>407.0</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>139,328.6</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
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</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission

### Municipal Ordinances

Table 5 provides a current listing of the county’s municipalities and their status regarding zoning and subdivision ordinances, flood insurance, and building permits.

Four boroughs (Alexandria, Huntingdon, Mt. Union, and Shade Gap) and three townships (Henderson, Smithfield, and Walker) have zoning ordinances. Shirley Township is the most populated municipality without zoning, with 2,490 persons in 1990. Other areas with over 1,000 persons without zoning are: Porter Township (1,975), Cromwell Township (1,500), Warriors Mark (1,353), Dublin Township (1,121), Oneida Township (1,085), and Brady Township (1,053).

Twenty-five 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 building permits: Birmingham Borough and Shade Gap Borough.

A major weakness in protecting county land is the lack of subdivision ordinances at both the county and local municipality levels.
<table>
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<td>Tell</td>
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<td>Logan</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>Walker</td>
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<td>Mapleton</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Warriors Mark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marklesburg</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>West</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>Wood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
Introduction
Vacancies and Seasonality
Length of Vacancy for "For-Sale and "For-Rent" Units
Owner Occupancy and Rentals
Age Structure of Owner Occupants
Housing Units by Type
Value Of Owner Occupied Housing Units
Age of the Housing Stock
Rooms Per Housing Unit and Persons Per Housing Unit
Utilities and Heating Sources
Change in Housing Units Since 1990
HOUSING STUDY

Introduction
The Huntingdon County housing stock growth of 14.1 percent between 1980 and 1990 was considerably greater than the population growth for the same period. The 19,286 housing units in 1990 represent an increase of 2,385 units over the 1980 figure. Of the total units, 15,527, or 80.5 percent, were occupied. In terms of housing, the five fastest growing municipalities were: Barree (47.3%), Morris (28.2%), Cass (23.7%), Cromwell (23.2%), Walker (19.8%) Townships. See Table 6 and Map 2.

Vacancies and Seasonality
The gross vacancy rate for 1990 in the county was 19.5 percent, compared to 9.0 percent in the state. When both state and county figures are adjusted for seasonal vacancies, the actual vacancy rate for the state was 6.0 percent and the rate for the county was 6.7 percent. Huntingdon County ranks 13th in the state in seasonal homes as a percentage of total homes. Of the 3,759 vacant units 2,463, or over 65 percent, were seasonal or intended for occasional use. This accounts for the large difference between the gross and adjusted vacancy rates.

Seasonal units as a percentage of total units in 1980 were only 8.0 percent; in 1990 they were 12.8 percent. Although the county had a high percentage of seasonal homes, there was a large range between the various municipalities. A few of the boroughs had less than one percent of all units as seasonal, while the top three townships (Lincoln, Penn, and Springfield) had 43.7%, 38.6%, and 37.4% in seasonal housing, respectively.

Non-seasonal vacancies also showed a high degree of variation; in 1990, Jackson Township had a 22.4 percent non-seasonal (adjusted) vacancy rate, while Henderson Township had an adjusted rate of only 2.8 percent.

Length of Vacancy for “For-Sale” and “For-Rent” Units
As shown in Map 3, almost 30.0 percent of the non-seasonal vacancies in the county were vacant for sale or rent. Of those, 47.2 percent of the rental units and 70.4 percent of the for-sale units were on the market for more than six months. Both of these percentages are high compared to the Pennsylvania average; for the state as a whole, 34.9 percent of rental units and 53.2 percent of the for-sale units had been on the market for more than six months. These long term vacancies are indicative of a fairly soft housing market; in 1990, Huntingdon County had the ninth highest rate of long term vacancies of the Commonwealth’s 67 counties.

Owner Occupancy and Rentals
In 1990, 11,845 of the 15,527 occupied housing units in Huntingdon County were lived in by their owners. This was an owner occupancy rate of 76.3 percent, compared to the Pennsylvania rate of 70.6 percent. This rate places Huntingdon well above the median in owner occupancy among the 67 counties. Rentals, then, are a fairly small portion of all occupied units. In 1990, only 3,682 rental units were occupied in the county. This was 23.7 percent of all occupied units.

As shown in Map 4, there is substantial variation in the percentage of rental units in the housing mix. Huntingdon Borough, and Mount Union Borough have the highest absolute totals and the highest percentages of rentals.
## TABLE 6

### SELECTED HOUSING STATISTICS

Huntingdon County and Pennsylvania, 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Occupied</th>
<th>Vacant</th>
<th>Occupied % Total</th>
<th>Vacant % Total</th>
<th>Seasonal % Total</th>
<th>Owner Occupied % Total</th>
<th>Non-Seasonal Vacant % Total</th>
<th>Median Value</th>
<th>Single Family Detached</th>
<th>Single Family Attached</th>
<th>Mobile Homes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>4938140</td>
<td>4495966</td>
<td>442174</td>
<td>91.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>$69,700</td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>5.2</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County</td>
<td>19286</td>
<td>15527</td>
<td>3759</td>
<td>80.5</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>$43,100</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>14.8</td>
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<tr>
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<td>158</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>0.6</td>
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<td>5.1</td>
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<td>5.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barree township</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>75.7</td>
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<td>20.6</td>
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<td>$53,100</td>
<td>67.4</td>
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<td>Birmingham borough</td>
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<td>48</td>
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<td>11.1</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>58.3</td>
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<td>$26,000</td>
<td>74.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>$44,600</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>20.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broad Top City borough</td>
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<td>134</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>10.7</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>87.3</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>$43,800</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>19.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carbon township</td>
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<td>$41,500</td>
<td>64.1</td>
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<td>Cass township</td>
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<td>$46,300</td>
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<th>Owner Occupied % Total</th>
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Source: US Census of Population and Housing
Huntingdon had 1,094 occupied rental units, which is 43 percent of all occupied units. Mount Union had 609 rental units, which is almost 48 percent. Together, these two communities have 46 percent of all rental units in the county. On the other hand, several municipalities had less than 15 percent of their housing stock in rental units.

**Age Structure of Owner Occupants**

In Huntingdon County, only 27.7 percent of homeowners are over 65 years of age. Of the owner occupied dwellings in Pennsylvania, 28.1 percent have householders over the age of 65. However, 11.8 percent of homeowners in the county are over 75, compared to 10.8 percent in the Commonwealth. The latter statistic is more important, because, as homeowners enter their “frail” elderly years they become less able to physically, and often financially, take care of their homes. This sometimes leads to severe deterioration in the housing stock of whole neighborhoods which “age” together.

While the county as a whole has only slightly more elderly homeowners than the state as a percentage of total owner occupants, the distribution within the county indicates some probable concerns. As shown in Map 5, the borough of Birmingham, which is quite tiny with only 28 owner occupied dwelling units, had 28.6 percent of homeowners over the age of 75. Several other municipalities had over 20 percent of homeowners over 75.

**Housing Units by Type**

In Huntingdon County, the percentage of single family homes is quite high at 85.5. Of particular interest is the distribution within the single-family category in the county. Traditional detached homes are 68.2 percent, attached only 2.5 percent, and mobile homes 14.8 percent. In Pennsylvania, about 77 percent of all housing units are classified as single family. A slight majority of all housing units in the Commonwealth, 53.4 percent, are single family detached homes. Statewide, another 18.4 percent are single family attached units (mainly urban townhouses), and Mobile homes constitute 5.2 percent; and multi-family units, including duplexes, make up roughly 23 percent.

In Pennsylvania, only counties had a greater percentage of mobile homes and, like Huntingdon County, all are essentially rural. This suggests that some of the shortfall of multi-family housing units is being made up by mobile homes.

The high percentage of single family homes argues that there may not be sufficient choices available in the housing mix to satisfy the needs of all households. Multi-family units, particularly rentals, are necessary or desirable for many small households at both ends of the age spectrum and for many low income households. The lack of available, affordable, multi-family housing may explain why there is such a high percentage of elderly homeowners in some municipalities.

Within the county, the distribution of mobile homes is not at all even, as shown in Map 6. In Carbon Township over 31 percent of the housing stock is comprised of mobile homes, while Huntingdon Borough mobile homes comprise only 0.5 percent. Likewise, only Huntingdon Borough and Mount Union Borough have any significant number of multi-family homes. In Huntingdon and in Mount Union over 34.0 percent of all units are multi-family. Also, only Huntingdon and Mount Union have large housing complexes of over 50 units.

**Value of Owner Occupied Housing Units**

In Huntingdon County the median value was $43,100. The median value of an owner occupied housing unit in 1990 in Pennsylvania was $69,700. Only 15 counties had a lower median housing value. The 1980 median value for the state was $39,100 and for the county it was $28,400. In other words, the median house in the county in 1990 had a market value of only 61.8 percent of the state median; this was a decrease in relative value from 1980 when the median house in Huntingdon County was valued at 72.6 percent of the median owner occupied single family home in Pennsylvania. Inflation in housing value was significant in both the county and the state, but it was much higher in Pennsylvania as a whole.
Population and Demographics

Population Change
Population Projection - 2000
Age and Gender Composition
Racial Composition
Household Size and Structure
Socioeconomic Characteristics
Thematic Population Maps:

Map 8

Map 9
Percent Population Change, PA Counties, 1980-1990

Map 10
Percent Population Density Per Square Mile, PA Counties, 1990

Map 11

Map 12
Percent Population Change, HC, 1980-1990
**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 areas rather than just to a borough or township.

Huntingdon County has 11 Planning Regions, as shown in Map 13, each of which is briefly described below in terms of population change. Additional information about the population trends is provided for in Table 8 on the next page.

**Region 1 Spruce Creek:** Birmingham Borough, Franklin, Morris, Spruce Creek, and Warriors Mark Townships make up the northwestern region. Since 1980 the region grew slowly at 1 percent. However, Spruce Creek and Warriors Mark were the only declining municipalities but their population losses were significant enough for the region to gain only twenty-two people as a whole.

**Region 2 Northern Huntingdon:** Barree, Jackson, Miller, and West Townships make up the northeastern region. This area experienced growth of 269 people since 1980, over 13 percent. The largest growth areas were Barree with 105 people and Miller with 84.

**Region 3 Juniata Valley:** Alexandria and Petersburg Boroughs, and Logan and Porter Townships make up this region, which is located in north central Huntingdon County. Despite all areas (except Porter Township) losing population, the region grew by 59 people, or 1.7 percent.

**Region 4 Huntingdon:** Huntingdon Borough, Oneida, Smithfield, and Walker Townships make up the central region, by far the largest population concentration in the county. Overall, the region gained 1,611 people or 13.1 percent, the most significant gain in numbers and second largest in percent only to the Northern Huntingdon Region.

**Region 5 Woodcock Valley:** Marklesburg Borough, Juniata, Lincoln, and Penn Townships make up the west central region where population increased slightly due to growth in Juniata and Penn Townships.

**Region 6 Trough Creek:** Cassville and Mapleton Boroughs, Cass, Todd, and Union Townships make up the south central portion of Huntingdon County. The population in this region declined slightly, losing 20 people since 1980, as the population of the two boroughs and Union Township populations dropped.

**Region 7 Mount Union:** Mount Union and Shirlleysburg Boroughs and Shirley Township make up the east central portion of the county and experienced a net loss of 125 persons. The Mount Union region, the second most populous in the county, declined by 2.2 percent in population since 1980.

**Region 8 Southern Huntingdon:** Orbisonia, Rockhill Furnace, Saltillo, and Three Springs Boroughs and Clay, Cromwell, and Springfield Townships make up the southern region and have lost 91 people since 1980.

**Region 9 Broad Top:** Broad Top City, Coalmont, and Dudley Boroughs and Carbon, Hopewell, and Wood Townships make up this southwestern region, which has lost significant population of 231 people, or nearly 9 percent, the largest decrease in the county.

**Region 10 Shade Valley:** Shade Gap Borough, Dublin, and Tell Townships make up the southeastern most tip of the county and gained a modest 33 people since 1980.

**Region 11 Mill Creek:** Mill creek Borough, Brady and Henderson Townships make up the central east portion of the county, bordering the growth region in central Huntingdon County. The region grew by 190 people or 8.7 percent.

Map 13
Planning Regions
## TABLE 9

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING REGIONS**

**Population Analysis**

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Population Projection - 2000

Huntingdon County is expected to continue its pattern of growth through the 1990's reaching 46,326 by the year 2000. Estimates for 1994 show a .8 percent rate of growth. The population projection shows a growth of 1,162 persons by the year 2000, for a growth rate of 2.6 percent. Without migration the growth rate was higher at 2.8 percent. On the other hand, Pennsylvania shows a growth rate of 2.9 percent for the year 2000. However, after adjusting for in migration factors, the Commonwealth is projected to lose 1.6 percent. Interestingly, Huntingdon County is projected to lose population in many cohorts, including the ages of persons less than 10, 15 to 34, and 55 to 74. The growth cohorts are typical of many Pennsylvania areas growing from ages 75 and over, but only slightly. The other age cohorts expected to grow are from 35 to 54 years old.

The projection of population growth or decline is based on past trends. The trends are the result of many factors which can be used to make accurate predictions. Those factors (death rates, females of child bearing age, number of live births, children ever born, and in-out migration) are projected over five year age cohorts. The result is a comprehensive view of the future population based on how people age, live, die, and move in and out of the area.

Urban and Rural Populations

Huntingdon County has 75 percent its population living in a rural non-farm area. Since 1960, the number has grown 14 percent, increasing from 61.0 percent. Farming has dropped from 10.3 percent in 1960 to 2.8 percent in 1990. The persons living in urban areas such as the boroughs has dropped from a 1960 level of 28.3 percent to 22.2 in 1990. The growth in persons living in rural non-farm situations are not surprising considering the tremendous growth in the townships of the county and the subsequent decline of the boroughs.

In comparison, Huntingdon County has a much greater rural land area than many counties in Pennsylvania resulting in a larger rural population. In 1990, of the county’s population of 44,164, 14,172 or 32 percent resided in boroughs while 29,992 (68 percent) lived in the more rural townships. In 1960 Pennsylvania was classified as having 28.4 percent of their population living in rural situations and 71.6 urban, with similar urban and rural splits for the US, the opposite of today’s statistics in the county. In 1990 Pennsylvania was classified as having 68.1 percent urban population, down 2.5 percent, and can be considered to be only 1.0 percent rural farmers. One third of the population lived in a rural non-farm setting. On the other hand, the US has increasingly become more urban and by 1990 nearly 75 percent of its population existed in the country’s urban areas. The US on average has a greater percent of persons living in a farm setting than Pennsylvania, but only by .36 percent. As expected, the US has a lower rural non-farm population of only 24.13 percent.

The Census Bureau defines "urban" for the 1990 census as comprising all territory, population, and housing units in urbanized areas and in places of 2,500, or more persons outside urbanized areas. More specifically, "urban" consists of territory, persons, and housing units in:

1. Places of 2,500 or more persons incorporated as cities, villages, boroughs(except in Alaska and New York), and towns (except in the six New England States, New-York, and Wisconsin), but excluding the rural portions of "extended cities."
2. Census designated places of 2,500 or more persons.
3. Other territory, incorporated or unincorporated, included in urbanized areas.

In the sample data products, rural population and housing units are subdivided into "rural farm" and "rural nonfarm." "Rural farm" comprises all rural households and housing units on farms (places from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold in 1989); "rural nonfarm" comprises the remaining rural.

Age and Gender Composition

Median Age

The median age for Huntingdon County in 1990 was 33.3 years of age. This was lower than Pennsylvania (34.0 years), which has the second oldest population in all of the states (Florida was the oldest). The median age for the United States is slightly higher than Huntingdon County at 33.6. The county’s low age population is due in part due to large college populations in Huntingdon Borough (Juniata College) and Mount Union Borough of persons in the 20 to 30 year old cohorts. Smithfield Township’s large correctional facility, with 2,769 persons in 1990, has a very low average age, resulting in a 31.6 median age for the township. Other very low age populations are concentrated in the newer populated growth townships such as Morris, Brady, and West, all with
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 number of persons under the age of 18 raised in married couple families at 77.11 percent, while the Commonwealth percentage is only 72.9. Also, the county has a low number of persons raised in a female headed household at only 10.86 percent. A high percentage of children raised in female-headed households can be a concern because the figure usually corresponds with a high percent of children raised in poverty.

To properly examine living arrangements household type and relations in the county, we must note that 3,137 persons in the county reside in institutional group quarters, 7.10 percent of the population. Other group quarters make up an additional 2.2 percent. Overall, over 9 percent of the Huntingdon County population resides in group quarters. Pennsylvania residents in group quarters are below 3 percent. Other living situations are dominated by the householder which amounted to 25.56 percent of the Huntingdon County population. Persons registered as a spouse make up 21.48 percent and persons living alone are 8.55 percent of the population. Pennsylvania differs slightly with 26.56 percent of persons as the householder. Almost identical are the 21 percent of persons listed as the spouse. A surprising fact considering the large number of persons in colleges in the county, the state’s 9.68 percent of persons living as a householder alone, which is higher than the county’s. Perhaps one of the more relevant fact relating to living situation is the county’s high percentage of persons living in group quarters, which was 7.1 percent in 1990. This is more than double the state rate of 3 percent.

Socioeconomic Characteristics
When the basic demographic characteristics are combined with social and economic attributes and patterns including: educational attainment, income and poverty, ancestry, and rural characteristics, much of the character of the community is explained. Taken together, these characteristics of the population create a unique planning context for each community. Much of the information on socioeconomic characteristics from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing.

Migration
Migration cannot be measured in terms of increases and decreases in the county’s population rate. It is calculated as the total population change minus natural increases. Since 1970 the net migration for Huntingdon County is 1,896 persons. Between 1980 and 1990 the net immigration to Huntingdon County was 530 persons. Had the county’s natural increases remained in the county, it would have gained considerably more in population size. See Tables 10 and 11.

| TABLE 10 |
| POPULATION IMMIGRATION (EMIGRATION), 1970-1980 |
| Huntingdon County |
| 39,108 | 1,779 | 40,887 | 42,253 | 1,366 |

* Births Minus Deaths, for the period

** Actual population minus potential population, for the period

| TABLE 11 |
| POPULATION IMMIGRATION (EMIGRATION), 1980-1990 |
| Huntingdon County |
| 42,253 | 1,381 | 43,634 | 44,164 | 530 |

* Births Minus Deaths, for the period

** Actual population minus potential population, for the period

*** 1990 Preliminary Census Data

Place of Birth
In comparison with the Pennsylvania population, Huntingdon County residents have a greater tendency to be born in the state. Almost 90 percent of the county residents were born in Pennsylvania, compared to only 80.2 percent of persons residing in the Commonwealth. Historically the population has become more transient. In 1960 94.7 percent of county residents were born in Pennsylvania and over 85 percent of Pennsylvania’s residences were born here. In addition, almost twice as many people move into all of Pennsylvania counties as move into Huntingdon County, which is down from three times in 1960.

Residence in 1985
Residence in 1985 to measures the relative stability of the population and asked of all people over five years of age in 1990 the question, “Where was your residence in 1985,”. The statistics indicate that people in Huntingdon County are slightly more likely to have lived in the same house five years ago than the average Pennsylvanian. Huntingdon County’s 66.9 percent in this category is over 3 percent
greater than Pennsylvania. However, Huntingdon Countians were less likely to have lived in the same county, with only 16.6 percent compared to 22.1 percent of Pennsylvania's, but were much more likely to have lived in Pennsylvania. Huntingdon Countians lived in Pennsylvania but in a different house numbered 12.2 percent, compared to 7.4 percent of Pennsylvania's. This variation is very likely due to the college populations.

**Year Occupied Present House**  In general, Huntingdon County residents, are slightly less mobile than Pennsylvania residents. Huntingdon County householders occupying their residence for 10 years or more total 53.6 percent, compared to 48.1 percent for the state. Nearly 25 percent of Huntingdon County residents moved into their houses during the 1970s compared to only 19.5 percent of the state. Further proving the county’s more stable population is the fact that only 32 percent of county residents moved into their houses in 1985 or later, compared to 38.7 percent of Pennsylvania.

**Income**

In 1989, the median household income in Huntingdon County was $23,067. This was well below the Commonwealth median of $29,069 and the US median of $30,056. In comparison, almost 20 percent of Huntingdon County’s households had incomes of less than $20,000 and nearly 70 percent of incomes below $35,000. On the other hand only 15.5 percent of Pennsylvania households had incomes under $10,000 and 59.3 had incomes below $35,000. Comparable US figures were 13.9 percent and 55.8 percent, respectively. A large discrepancy exists between the state and the county in incomes above $50,000, where the county shows only 10.9 percent of households, and both the state and the US shows 22.0 percent.

On a sub-county basis great variations exist. As might be expected the boroughs are generally much poorer than the townships. The median incomes of Huntingdon County’s boroughs, average $19,569.56, while the townships average $25,104.30. Of the 48 municipalities, only eight had median household incomes over $29,000 and, all of them townships. Jackson, Oneida, and Barree were townships were the only municipalities over $30,000. Petersburg Borough had the wealthiest borough-based median income at $23,214. Among the poorest municipalities were Rockhill Furnace, Mount Union, Mill Creek, Coalmont, and Dudley Boroughs, with Rockhill Furnace’s $15,511 being the lowest in the study. Overall, 11 of the 18 boroughs had incomes below $20,000. See Maps 15 and 16.

**Public Assistance**  In 1990 Huntingdon County had 7.84 percent of its population receiving publicly assisted incomes, which includes welfare. This is very similar to the US total of 6.8 percent. Of the 3,460 persons 42.9 percent live in three municipalities: Huntingdon Borough (595 persons), Mount Union Borough (600 persons), and Shirley Township (290 persons). Smithfield Township and Cass Township have another 244 persons with income assistance explaining, overall, 50 percent of all assisted persons in the county. Other publicly assisted incomes are fairly evenly distributed depending on population.

**Poverty**

Poverty statistics presented in census publications were based on a definition originated by the Social Security Administration in 1964 and subsequently modified by federal interagency committees in 1969 and 1980 and prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget in Directive 14 as the standard to be used by federal agencies for statistical purposes. See Maps 17 and 18.
At the core of this definition was the 1961 economy food plan, the least costly of four nutritionally adequate food plans designed by the Department of Agriculture. It was determined that families of three or more persons spend approximately one-third of their income on food; hence, the poverty level for these families was set at three times the cost of the economy food plan. For smaller families and persons living alone, the cost of the economy food plan was multiplied by factors that were slightly higher to compensate for the relatively larger fixed expenses for these smaller households.

The total income of each family or unrelated individual in the sample was tested against the appropriate poverty threshold to determine the poverty status of that family or unrelated individual. If the total income was less than the corresponding cutoff, the family or unrelated individual was classified as “below the poverty level.” The number of persons in families with incomes below the poverty level and the number of unrelated individuals with incomes below the poverty level.

The poverty thresholds are revised annually to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index. In the US, the average poverty threshold for a family of four was $12,674 in 1989. In 1990, the poverty rate for Pennsylvania is 11.1 percent. Huntingdon County is slightly higher at 12.1 percent. However, both the state and county were lower than the 15.5 percent of persons below poverty in the US. On a sub-county basis, again, the diversity is great. As expected, the boroughs have a higher level of poverty when compared to the townships. Of the 18 boroughs, five have poverty levels over 20 percent: Shade Gap (47.93), Marklesburg (25.63), Mount Union (22.86), Dudley (20.95), and Mill Creek (20.49). Boroughs in Huntingdon County average 17.2 percent of their persons in poverty. However, four of the 18 boroughs have poverty levels below 10 percent: Birmingham (4.58), Coalmont (8.57), Cassville (9.04), and Shireysburg (9.15). On the other hand, only Hopewell of the 30 townships had a poverty levels over 20 percent with Hopewell Township at 20.04. Townships in general averaged only 10.5 percent persons in poverty, which was over 7 percent lower than the boroughs. There were thirteen townships with poverty levels below 10 percent, Oneida Township had the lowest poverty level at 4.61 percent.

Summary Note: Both the data pertaining to housing and the data in this section point to a well established trend - the de-intensification of living patterns. People are increasingly dispersed often choosing the 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 of private cars and commute increasingly longer distances to work and shop.
Economic Analysis

Historical Overview of Huntingdon County's Economy
Place of Employment and Journey to Work
Educational Attainment
Labor Force Participation
Unemployment
Disabilities and Labor Force Participation
Employment by Industry
Employment by Occupation
Class of Worker by Sector of Employment
Incomes and Poverty
Summary of Labor Force Analysis
Survey Findings and Recommendations
Ownership and Type of Establishment
Employment Characteristics
Problems with Hiring and Recruiting Workers
Education and Training
Structure of the economy
Summary of Economic Structure
Change in Establishments, Employment, and Wages
Economic Base Analysis
  Important Industries of Huntingdon County
Major Employers
Agriculture and Tourism
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

This section contains a summary of the existing structure of economic activity in Huntingdon County. That structure both conditions and informs much of the planning process. Much of the structural analysis contained herein was derived from a study of Huntingdon County's Economy performed in 1995 for Huntingdon County Business and Industry, Inc. Some material is derived from an earlier study of the Southern Alleghenies Region and its Counties completed in 1994. Both studies were funded as Community Economic Recovery Program projects. The original documents were edited for this presentation to exclude any sensitive data which might divulge firm-specific information on employment and wages; hence, this document is appropriate for public use.

This section begins with substantial Census of Population and Housing data about the current labor force of the county, with some historical Census data on the changes in employment over the time period from 1950 to 1990 to set the context of the current economic structure. The Census data is collected and reported on a place of residence basis, i.e., it describes the economic situation of residents of the county wherever they may be employed. An additional set of data items is a summary of the findings of a survey of industrial businesses concerning the type of workers employed in the county and the qualities and shortcomings of the labor force. This survey was executed in 1995 as part of the Community Economic Recovery Program project.

Historical Overview of Huntingdon County's Economy

The economy of Huntingdon County has changed substantially since 1950; most of that change has been in the structure — not the size — of economic activity. As shown in Figure 4, in 1950, the county had 13,077 employed residents. By 1990 this had increased to 17,185 employed residents. This was an increase of 31 percent, which was below the percentage increase for the Commonwealth over the same period of time. Over the period the extractive sectors of economic activity, agriculture and mining, decreased in total employment from 2,539 to 935. In percentage terms this was a decrease from 19.4 percent of the labor force to 5.4 percent. Likewise, manufacturing employment in 1950 was 31.4 percent of the labor force, which decreased to 23.7 percent. In 1950, these goods producing industries employed just over one-half of all employed residents; by 1990, they employed a little less than 30 percent. By contrast, the other sectors grew from 49 percent to over 70 percent of total employment.
Place of Employment and Journey to Work

There were 17,185 employed residents of the county in 1990. Of this total 12,060 were employed in Huntingdon County, or 70 percent of the total. As shown in Figure 5, most of the remainder were employed in either Centre (1,398), Blair (814), Mifflin (656), Franklin (457), Fulton (395), or Bedford (329) Counties; however, 321 persons were employed out of Pennsylvania, primarily in Maryland. In the Commonwealth as a whole only 25 percent were employed outside their county of residence. Among the counties which border on Huntingdon, only tiny Fulton and Juniata have lower rates of employment within their borders for their residents. This indicates that, to an extent, some of the communities of Huntingdon County do serve as exurban bedrooms for workers in Blair and Centre Counties.

Commuting Patterns In and Out of Huntingdon County, 1990

Huntingdon County is also a net exporter of labor as shown in Maps 19 and 20. Although there were 17,185 employed residents of Huntingdon County, only 14,531 total persons actually worked in the county, including those who commuted in from other counties. Hence, there was a net export of 2,654 workers, or 30 percent of the workforce. The greatest number of “imported” workers, in 1990, came from Mifflin (829), Blair (524), Bedford (229), and Centre (121) Counties.

As is typical of rural areas without major population centers, a relatively small percentage of county residents work in their own municipality. About 21 percent of all workers were employed in their municipality of residence, compared to about 30 percent statewide.

Despite the fact that many people commute to work out of the county and most people commute outside their own community, just about one-half have
total and the private sector, 65. This relatively high rate of incubation implies a strong faith in the overall economy of the county, despite recent setbacks. Total wages paid increased by 25.2 percent, which was well above the rate of inflation, but wages per employee remained relatively low.

Economic Base Analysis

The "economic base" of any local area is the combination of industries which produce goods or services primarily for consumption beyond the defined local borders. Industries which produce goods or services primarily for consumption within the local area are considered "non-basic" or "residentiary". Almost all retail and some service industries fall into the latter category. The economic base industries are important to the local economy because, by selling goods and services to firms or persons outside the local area, they generate an inflow of dollars. These dollars provide the local area with the cash it needs to purchase goods and services from elsewhere in the state, nation, or world.

Industries are determined to be "basic" or "non-basic" by their relative concentration in the local area. If a particular industry employs a higher percentage of the total labor force locally than it does nationally, it is said to be a basic industry. The measure of local percentage divided by national percentage is called a Location Quotient (LQ). If, for example, the dairy industry employs 2.0 percent of the total labor force in Huntingdon County but only 1.0 percent of the national labor force, then it has a Location Quotient of 2.0. This implies that the local industry produces twice as much milk as it needs for local consumption and that half of its total product is "exported". Since half the employment in the industry is producing for export, that portion of the wage-bill can be considered export income; likewise, any profit made on the export of the goods is also export income.

Economic Base of Huntingdon County

The major industry groups in which Huntingdon County has a substantial export percentage are:

- SIC 32: Stone, Clay, and Glass Products LQ=11.73
- SIC 14: Non-metallic Minerals LQ= 9.56
- SIC 26: Paper Products LQ= 8.79
- SIC 29: Petroleum and Coal Products LQ= 7.33
- SIC 23: Apparel and Accessories LQ= 3.78
- SIC 30: Rubber and Plastics Products LQ= 3.56
- SIC 24: Lumber and Wood Products LQ= 2.80
- SIC 36: Electrical and Electronic Equip. LQ= 2.27
- SIC 82: Educational Services LQ= 2.23

Lesser specializations are found in: SIC 15: General Contractors (LQ= 1.80); SIC 54: Food Stores (LQ= 1.79); SIC 51: Non-durable Goods Wholesale (LQ= 1.73); SIC 52: Building Materials and Garden Supplies (LQ= 1.64); and SIC 60: Depository Institutions (LQ= 1.28).

This data shows that Huntingdon County's economic base is fairly diversified. Fifteen of the seventy 2-digit industry groups in the Standard Industrial Classification system are basic in the county. Seven of these are manufacturing industries but of those seven, five have been declining rapidly in the U.S. over the past decade.

There are approximately 3,000 persons in Huntingdon County producing primarily for export. Since, in 1990, there were just over 9,000 people employed in the private sector in the county, the ratio of basic employment to total employment is about 1 to 3. Hence, for every new job created in a basic industry in the county, about three total new jobs will be created, including the basic industry employment.

Important Industries of Huntingdon County

The largest employment generators in Huntingdon County are local and state government. The 78 establishments in these two industries employed a total of 2,539 persons in 1990. Overall government also paid well above the average wage in the county. Despite their importance as wage payers, most of the government entities cannot really be considered strategic to the local economy because they primarily serve the local area. Exceptions are the State Correctional Institutions. Federal government employment also ranks in the top twenty economic activities in the county; it is possible to consider federal government employment a strategic industry in some circumstances.

Eight of the remaining 17 industries in the top twenty employers are non-basic or residentiary, that is, they exist primarily to serve the needs of residents of Huntingdon County. While it is possible for such an industry to have an LQ greater than 1.0 (e.g. Building Supply Stores in the county), most do not have the characteristics of a strategic industry. An exception is SIC 8062: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals. This is a major growth industry and large hospitals tend to be regional rather than local in the market area they serve. Recent history suggests that in some areas the potential for economic development agencies to influence the growth of medical services is quite high. The following are all strategic industries based on the criteria noted in the previous section:

- SIC 2339: Women's and Misses' Outerwear Decline
- SIC 2341: Women's and Children's Underwear Decline
- SIC 2421: Sawmills and Planing Mills, General Stable
- SIC 2678: Stationery Products Decline
- SIC 2679: Converted Paper Products Stable
The ten largest manufacturing industries employed a total of 2,433 persons in 1990. Most of these industries were comprised of only one establishment in the county. Unfortunately, eight of the ten largest Huntingdon County manufacturing industries were declining nationally in employment between 1987 and 1990. Seven of these industries declined nationally over the whole period from 1982 to 1990. The greatest national decline was in SIC 2341: Women and Children's Underwear. This industry lost almost 28 percent of its national employment between 1982 and 1990. The only large basic industry to show any national return across the period was SIC 2679: Converted Paper Products. This industry increased by 4.0 percent from 1987 to 1990, but overall saw an increase of only 1.0 percent in employment from 1982 to 1990. The apparel industries have lost most of their employment in the local economy. This reflects the massive restructuring taking place in the apparel industry in the United States.

It is obvious that Huntingdon County's larger manufacturing strategic industries may require careful attention from the local development agencies. Some of the firms in these industries may need direct assistance to help them survive. Some will have the potential for future growth through aggressive cost-cutting or marketing. Indeed, it is important to note that some of these industries may be undergoing a technological transformation that reduces employment while substituting capital equipment. These industries are basically healthy despite the decline in employment.

SIC 8221: Colleges and Universities, is an important strategic industry for Huntingdon County. Not only is this a highly basic industry, it also has the potential to impact on other local employment as part of the overall development infrastructure. Another important strategic non-manufacturing industry in the county is SIC 5141: Wholesale Groceries. This industry is relatively stagnant nationally, but has the potential for strong local growth.

A few smaller manufacturing industries may have strategic potential. These include: SIC 3297: Non-clay Refractories; SIC 2782: Blankbooks and Looseleaf Binders; SIC 3559: Special Industry Machinery; and SIC 2426: Hardwood Dimension and Flooring Mills. Among the non-manufacturing industries found in the county, SIC 7374: Data Processing and Preparation and SIC 6331: Fire, Marine, and Casualty Insurance have the potential for strategic importance. All of these industries show national growth potential and an apparent comparative cost advantage in the county.

Major Employers
Table 13 provides a list of the top ten major employers in Huntingdon County.

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<td>Electronic Connectors/3678</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt Union Sch. District</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>Educational/8211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonney Forge Corp.</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>Valves, Fittings, etc./3449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata College</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Higher Education/8221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Area Sch. Dist.</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Educational/8211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agriculture and Tourism
Two important elements of the Huntingdon County economy are not easily measured by the standard data sources. These are agriculture and tourism. In the case of agriculture, most of the employment in the sector is in family farms and, therefore, the Department of Labor and Industry data does not capture much of the employment. Owner-operators of family farms are self-employed and are not covered by Unemployment Compensation. Their employees, if any, tend to be family members or part-time laborers for whom unemployment is typically not paid. The published employment data for this sector, then, badly understates the workers in agriculture. The best information on employment in agriculture, is derived from the decennial Census of Population and Housing. Other important agriculture statistics are given in the Census of Agriculture which is published twice each decade.

According to the 1990 Census, there were 814 persons employed in agriculture. This was a decrease of 11.8 percent from the 923 who were employed in the sector in 1980.
In 1980, agriculture was 6.0 percent of total employment; in 1990 it was 4.9 percent. While this was a significant decrease, most of the employment change occurred before 1970. From 1950 to 1970 agricultural employment declined from 2,539 to 1,000; a decrease of almost 61 percent.

Huntingdon County was not alone in experiencing the huge decrease in agricultural employment; throughout the Commonwealth and, indeed, the nation, farm workers and owners have been finding other means to support themselves for several decades. In fact, Huntingdon County is still among the more highly agricultural counties in the state. For the Commonwealth as a whole, only 1.7 percent of all employees are in the agricultural sector; in Huntingdon County, almost 5.0 percent were still in the field in 1990.

Despite the relatively high concentration of employment in agriculture, Huntingdon ranks only 32nd in the state in total agricultural sales and 24th in the sales of livestock and dairy. Farm sales per capita were 18th among the 67 counties.

Tourism is a problem for a somewhat different reason. This industry group involves parts of many economic activities and all of very few. Part of the sales by restaurants, gasoline stations, most other retail establishments, amusement facilities, and the like occur because there are tourists in the county. Marinas, parks, and other outside recreational activities also fall into this group. In Huntingdon County, travel and tourism was identified in terms of 25 different activities.

In 1993 there were about two million visitor days; 81 percent by non-county residents according to a recent study by the School of Forest Resources at Penn State. Of total tourism, outdoor activities were 88 percent in the county. Tourism generated total expenditures of $35.9 million, 86 percent from residents of other counties. Intentional tourism, i.e. not business or pass through travel, generated 87 percent of all travel and tourism expenditures. Overall, according to the above study, travel and tourism represented 4.7 percent of the county's total sales during 1993 and 7.9 percent of its total employment.
Environmental Resources Analysis

Location and Climate
Physiography
Geology and Soils
Water Resources
Groundwater Sources
Stormwater
Acid Mine Drainage (AMD)
Wetlands
Air Quality
Acid Rain
Forest Lands
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS

The study of environmental resources considers those factors which can have an impact on land development and which make up the natural environment of Huntingdon County. A basic analysis has been conducted concerning both physiographic and natural features.

Location and Climate
Huntingdon County is in the south-central part of Pennsylvania. It has a total area of 895 square miles, or 572,480 acres. The county is in the Ridge and Valley Province. Mountains and steep hills that have narrow ridgetops dominate the landscape, but some moderately broad, level areas are on river terraces and flood plains along the Juniata River. Approximately 71 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.

Physiography
Physiography is the study of the physical geography of an area including: climate, geology, soils, topography, slope and drainage. 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 which 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 14 presents the four major slope categories with their associated suitable development types:
TABLE 14

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

Typically, topographical analysis of gradation results in a slope map which is divided into these four aforementioned categories. However, due to limited data resources available in a digital format, Huntingdon County’s slope map has only two categories: slope above 15 percent and slope below 15 percent. The slope map also contains the 500 year flood plain and is therefore titled the Development Opportunities and Constraints Map 23. The map is designed to show the areas of the county which are available for possible development and those areas which would be very difficult to develop for most land uses.

**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 236,849 acres, or 41.6% of the county.

**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 24.

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.
Not all valleys are underlain by limestone and dolomite. The Juniata, Stonecreek and Aughch valleys are underlain by siltstones and shales. The more agriculturally productive areas are associated with the limestone and dolomite bedrock.

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 agglomerate 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 and oil are not known to exist in the county. There is a slight possibility that deep drilling might find accumulations of oil or, more probably, gas within the county.

#### Non-metallic Minerals

Many of 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 material. The principal quarries which 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 which 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 Marksburg and McConnellstown, but this bed is not as thick or as rich as the Frankstown bed of the same ore in Blair County.

#### 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*.

The general Soils Characteristics Map 25 shows the soil associations in Huntingdon County. A soil association is a landscape that has a distinctive pattern of soils in defined proportions. It typically consists of one or more major soils and at least one minor soil, and it is named for the major soils.
The soils in an association occur in other associations, but in different patterns. Table 15, on page 50, provides a brief summary of the nine soil associations found in the county including percent of land coverage for each category and suitable development possibilities.

How Soils Affect Planning and Land Use*

This section is designed to assist community planners, developers, policy makers, and individual land owners in determining the most suitable use for a particular area. In addition to the guidance offered in the section above, this explanation details certain general land uses and describes the soil properties which affect their development. In order to identify the specific locations for a certain type of development, two sources can be used: Tables 5 and 6 on pages 74 through 88 of the Huntingdon County Soils Survey and the Soil Characteristics Map 25.

Sewage Lagoons: Sewage lagoons are shallow ponds constructed to hold sewage within a depth of 2 to 5 feet long enough for bacteria to decompose the solids. A lagoon has a nearly level floor and sides, or embankments, of compacted soil material. The assumption is made that the embankment is compacted to medium density and the pond is protected from flooding. Factors that affect the pond floor and embankment are considered. Those that affect the pond floor are permeability, organic matter, and slope. If the floor needs to be leveled, depth to, and condition of, bedrock become important. The soil properties that affect the embankment are the engineering properties of the embankment material as interpreted from the Unified soil classification system and the amount of stone, if any, that influences the ease of excavation and compaction of the embankment materials.

Dwellings with Basements: Dwellings with basements are for homesites or other buildings of three stories or less in height that have no more than an 8-foot excavation for basements. Buildings with foundation loads in excess of those equal to three story dwellings and with more than an 8-foot excavation for basements are excluded from the ratings. Factors considered in rating the soils are the depth to water table, shrink-swell potential, the depth to and the kind of bedrock, soil texture, the percent of slope, potential frost action, and the hazard of flooding.

Lawns and Landscaping: Lawns and Landscaping at homesites are rated where enough lime and fertilizers are used for lawn grasses and ornamental plants to grow. Suitable soil material is needed in sufficient quantities so desirable trees and other plants can survive and grow well. Among the important soil properties for lawns and landscaping are depth of bedrock or layers that restrict water and roots, texture, slope, depth of water table, and the presence of stone or rock.

Local Roads and Streets: Local Roads and Streets have an all-weather surface expected to carry automobile traffic all year. They have a subgrade of underlying soil material, a base consisting of gravel, crushed rock, or soil material stabilized with lime or cement; and a flexible or rigid surface, commonly asphalt or concrete. These roads are graded to shed water and have ordinary provisions for drainage. They are built mainly from soil at hand and most cuts and fills are less than 6 feet in depth.

Local roads and streets are most affected in design and construction by load supporting capacity, stability of the subgrade, and the workability and quantity of cut and fill material available. The AASHTO and Unified classifications of the soil material, and also the shrink-swell potential, indicate traffic supporting capacity. Wetness and flooding affect stability of the material. Slope, depth to hard rock, content of stones and rocks, and wetness affect ease of excavation and amount of cut and fill needed to reach an even grade.

Sanitary Landfill: A sanitary landfill is a method of disposing of refuse. The waste is spread in thin layers, compacted, and covered with soil throughout the disposal period. Landfill areas are subject to heavy vehicular traffic. Some soil properties that affect suitability for landfill use are ease of excavation, hazard of polluting groundwater, and trafficability. The best soils have moderately slow permeability, withstand heavy traffic, and are friable and easy to excavate.

Other types of development not mentioned here should be classified and referenced to the table in the Soils Survey. Other uses include recreational facilities such as camping areas, paths and trails, picnic areas, and playgrounds, and other development such as golf courses, dwellings without basements, or high density developments.

Development Limitations of Soil Associations

1. Hazleton-Laidig-Buchanan - Sloping to steep, deep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that have a loamy subsoil; on mountain ridges and foot slopes.

This association consists of soils that formed from sandstone and some shale. It is on mountain ridges and foot slopes throughout the county. Most areas of the association are very stony or extremely stony.

This association makes up 33 percent of the county. It is composed of about 29 percent Hazleton soils, 17 percent Laidig soils, 16 percent Buchanan soils, and 38 percent soils of minor extent.
This association is mainly wooded. Large areas are in game lands and state forest. A few small areas on the foot slopes have been cleared and are used mainly for pasture and hay. Stones and steep slopes limit the suitability of the soils for farming. The major limitations for urban and rural uses are slope, stones, depth to bedrock, and a seasonal high water table.

### TABLE 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOIL ASSOCIATIONS SUMMARY</th>
<th>Percent of County</th>
<th>Suitable Development Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hazelton-Landig-Buchanan</strong></td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>Mainly wooded. Large areas are in game lands and state forest. Foot slopes are used mainly for pasture and hay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hazelton-Morrison-Vanderlip</strong></td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>Most areas are wooded. Farming limited to the Morrison soils, corn, hay, and other crops associated with dairy farming are grown. Areas of Vanderlip soils are used for fruit orchards and a source of sand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hazelton-Clymer-Buchanan</strong></td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>Mainly wooded. Stoney and steep areas are suited to trees, wildlife habitat, recreation, and watersheds. Farming is limited to the Clymer soils suitable for general farming crops. Strip mining operations in the county are in this association.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morrison-Vanderlip</strong></td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Mainly in woodland. Wooded areas are stony or have steep slopes. Vanderlip soils and abandoned iron ore pits and spoil areas are wooded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Berks-Weikert-Ernest</strong></td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>Mostly wooded or idle. Scattered areas used for dairy and beef operations, and areas in Christmas tree plantations. Many areas cleared and cultivated, but small fields, steep slopes, and droughtiness made most farming uneconomical.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Calvin-Klinesville-Albrights</strong></td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>Mainly wooded. The steep slopes limit the suitability of the soils. Wooded areas were farmed but have reverted to woodland. Well suited to trees, wildlife habitat, and recreational uses. A few scattered areas are used for farming, but droughtiness is a limitation for most farm crops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opequon-Edom-Weikert</strong></td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>Most areas in crops. Suitable for general farm crops associated with dairy farming. Erosion is a problem and intensive management practices are needed to control surface water. Droughtiness is a limitation on some of these soils.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hagerstown-Hublersburg</strong></td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>Most areas are in crops. This association has the largest area of highly productive soils that can be intensively farmed with a minimum of erosion protection. Crops are those generally associated with dairy farming operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monogahela-Raritan-Basher-Atkins</strong></td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Most areas are in crops or Urban land. The main enterprise is dairy farming. The better drained soils are used general farm crops; poorly drained soils are used for hay and pasture or are wooded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, <em>Soil Survey of Huntingdon County, P.I</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Hazelton-Morrison-Vanderlip** - Sloping to steep, deep, well drained soils that have a sandy and loamy subsoil; in intermountain valleys.

This association consists of soils that formed in material weathered from fine grained sandstone. It is on relatively wide range tops within intermountain valleys in the central part of the county. The valleys in these areas are slightly below and between mountain crests.

This association makes up 9 percent of the county. It is about 30 percent Hazelton soils, 21 percent Morrison soils, 15 percent Vanderlip soils, and 34 percent soils of minor extent.

Most areas of this association remain wooded because the soils are too stony and steep for other uses. Farming is generally limited to the Morrison soils, and corn, hay, and other crops associated with dairy farming are grown. A few areas of Vanderlip soils are used for fruit orchards and as a source of sand. The major limitations for urban and rural uses are slope, depth to bedrock, hazard of groundwater contamination, and a moderately rapidly permeable to rapidly permeable subsoil.

3. **Hazelton-Clymer-Buchanan** - Gently sloping to moderately steep, deep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that have loamy subsoils; mostly on broad mountaintops.

This association consists of soils that formed in material weathered from fine grained sandstone and some shale. It is on relatively broad mountaintops.

This association makes up 5 percent of the county. It is composed about 29 percent Hazelton soils, 29 percent Clymer soils, 10 percent Buchanan soils, and 32 percent soils of minor extent.

This association is mainly wooded. The stony and steep areas are better suited to trees, wildlife habitat, recreation, and watersheds than to other uses. Farming is generally limited to the Clymer soils, which are suitable for most general farming crops. The strip mining operations in the county are in this association. The major limitations for most urban and rural uses are slope, a seasonal high water table, and stones.

4. **Morrison-Vanderlip** - Gently sloping to moderately steep, deep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that have loamy and sandy subsoils; in intermountain valleys.
This association consists of soils that formed in material weathered from fine grained sandstone and dolomitic limestone. It is on moderately broad and undulating hills and is in a few steep areas that are part of the low mountains located in the center of the limestone valleys in the northern part of the county.

This association is mainly wooded. Most of the wooded areas are stony or have steep slopes. Vanderlip soils and abandoned iron ore pits and spoil areas are also wooded. Other areas are used for crops associated with dairy operations or are used for pasture. Vanderlip soils are too droughty for shallow rooted plants. Some areas of these soils are used as a source of masonry sand. The major limitations for most urban and rural uses are the moderately rapidly to rapidly permeable subsoil, the steep slopes, and the hazard of ground water contamination.

5. Berks-Weikert-Ernest - Sloping to steep, shallow to deep, well drained to moderately well drained soils that have a loamy subsoil; on intermountain ridges and foot slopes.

This association consists of soils that formed in material weathered from acid brown, yellow, and olive shale. It is on rolling hills that have steep sided, narrow valleys and ridges in intermountain valley areas throughout the county.

This association makes up 25 percent of the county. It is composed of about 52 percent Berks soils, 20 percent Weikert soils, 6 percent Ernest soils, and 22 percent soils of minor extent.

This association is mainly wooded or idle. A few scattered areas are used for dairy and beef operations, and some areas are in Christmas tree plantations. Many of the areas were cleared and cultivated at one time, but small fields, steep slopes, and droughtiness of the soils made most farming operations uneconomical. The major limitations for urban and rural land uses are depth of bedrock, slope, a seasonal high water table, and moderately rapid permeability.

6. Calvin-Klinesville-Albrights - Sloping to steep, shallow to deep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that have a loamy subsoil; on intermountain ridges and foot slopes.

This association consists of soils that formed in material weathered from shale and sandstone. It is in several relatively narrow bands in the southwestern part of the county. The landscape consists of highly dissected rolling hills and steep-walled narrow valleys. The ridges in these areas are between higher mountains.

This association makes up 9 percent of the county. It is about 35 percent Calvin soils, 15 percent Klinesville soils, 9 percent Albright soils, and 41 percent soils of minor extent.

This association is mainly wooded; the steep slopes limit the suitability of the soils for other uses. Some of the wooded areas were farmed but have reverted to woodland. Most of the association is well suited to trees, wildlife habitat, and recreational uses. A few scattered areas are used for farming, but droughtiness is a limitation for most farm crops. The main limitations for urban and rural uses are depth to bedrock, slope, a seasonal high water table, and moderately rapid permeability.

7. Opequon-Edom-Weikert - Sloping to moderately steep, shallow and deep, well drained soils that have loamy and clayey subsoil; in valleys.

This association consists of soils that formed in material weathered mostly from interbedded, nearly pure, shaly limestone; yellowish brown shale, and acid brown shale. It is on narrow to moderately broad, rolling hills in the valley in the Shavers Creek area, north of Huntingdon; in the valley east of Tussey Mountain; and in the valley south of the Little Juniata River.

This association makes up about 8 percent of the county. It is composed of about 21 percent Opequon soils, 21 percent Edom soils, 14 percent Walker soils, and 44 percent soils of minor extent.

Most areas of this association are in crops. These soils are suitable for all general farm crops associated with dairy farming operations. Erosion, however, is a problem, and intensive management practices are needed to control surface water. Droughtiness is a limitation on some of these soils. The major limitations for urban and rural uses are the hazard of groundwater contamination, slope, and depth to bedrock.

8. Hagerstown-Hublersburg - Gently sloping and sloping, deep, well drained soils have a loamy and clayey subsoil; in valleys.

This association consists of soils that formed mostly in material weathered from thick bedded limestone. It is in the moderately broad valleys in the northwestern and southeastern parts of the county. The landscape consists mainly of rolling hills.

This association makes up 7 percent of the county. It is composed of about 33 percent Hagerstown soils, 23 percent Hublersburg soils, and 44 percent soils of minor extent.

Most areas of this association are in crops. This association has the largest area of highly productive soils that can be intensively farmed with a minimum of erosion protection. Crops are those generally associated with dairy farming operations. The main
**limitations** for urban and rural uses are depth to bedrock, slope, and the hazard of ground water contamination.

9. **Monongahela-Raritan-Basher-Atkins** - Gently sloping and nearly level, deep, moderately well drained and poorly drained soils that have a loamy subsoil; on terraces and flood plains.

This association consists of soils that formed in material deposited by streams. The most extensive areas are adjacent to the Juniata River and its Raystown Branch.

This association makes up 2 percent of the county. It is composed of about 23 percent Monongahela soils, 14 percent Raritan soils, 12 percent Basher soils, 9 percent Atkins soils, and 42 percent soils of minor extent.

Most areas of this association are in crops or urban land. The main enterprise is dairy farming. The better drained soils are used for general farm crops; poorly drained soils are used for hay and pasture or are wooded. This association has soils suitable to truck framing where markets are available. The main limitations for most urban and rural uses are the slowly permeable subsoil, a seasonal high water table, and flooding.

**Soil Contamination**

**Land Recycling and Cleanup** The Land Recycling Program, under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land Recycling and Waste Management, calls for the private cleanup of old industrial sites imposed upon new buyers of former industrial lands. This section identifies the sites actively being cleaned and recent sites which have been completed and are ready for development. Also identified are Superfund sites currently active in the county, complete with any test results or pollution risks.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) - commonly known as Superfund - was passed by Congress as a federal law in December of 1980. The law created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries to:

- Identify and respond to sites from which releases of hazardous substances into the environment have occurred or could potentially occur;
- Ensure that such sites are cleaned up by responsible parties or through government funding; and
- Evaluate damages to natural resources.

The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) was signed into law in October of 1986. SARA was a 5-year extension of CERCLA that established remediation standards and increased funding to implement the program. A separate provision reauthorized the program without change through October 1994 when authorization expired. The program continues to function through special appropriated funding while reauthorization of the law is negotiated by Congress. Huntingdon County has no Superfund sites as of late 1997.

**Hazardous Waste** As Table 16 shows, Huntingdon County contains 23 hazardous, toxic, or radioactive waste sites. The area of concentration is Huntingdon Borough, located on the Juniata River, just above its confluence with Standing Stone Creek. The borough contains 5 of the county’s 10 CERLIS sites; all 3 of the SWLF sites; 2 of 3 TRIS sites; 1 of the 5 LUST sites; 1 of 2 of the SWLF sites; and all of the RCRA sites.

This section uses databases compiled using EPA and PA DER databases and published as the *Southcentral Pennsylvania Environmental Infrastructure Study*, in March of 1995.

Hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste sites (HTRW) were identified using EPA and PA DER databases compiled by VISTA Environmental Services, Inc. Table 5 lists the HTRW sites for Huntingdon County.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability System (CERLIS) list is comprised of sites that have been investigated or are currently being investigated for a release or threatened release of hazardous substances pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA). The CERLIS was investigated to identify HTRW sites within the study area.

The National Priority List (NPL) is the EPA database of abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites identified for priority remedial action under the Superfund Program. One site in Huntingdon County is listed on the NPL.

The EPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulates facilities that are generators of hazardous waste. The program identifies and tracks hazardous waste from the point of generation to the point of disposal. The RCRA database is the EPA compilation of reporting facilities that generate, transport, treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste.

The State Priority List Sites are sites within a state that are identified as hazardous and that potentially require cleanup.
PA DER maintains a Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) list. This inventory contains information on known or suspected leaking underground storage tanks.

**TABLE 16**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Type</th>
<th>Number of Sites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CERCLIS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPL</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCRA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWLF</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HAZARDOUS, TOXIC, AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE SITES**

**Huntingdon County, 1996**

**Water Resources**

This section will identify factors affecting water quality not explored in the wetlands inventory analysis such as: Does the county have any exceptional value watersheds and what is the condition of each? Where are the monitoring sites for water quality on streams and other waterways?

Information for this section is gathered from the following sources: PA DEP, Bureau of Dams, Waterways and Wetlands - Division of Wetlands Protection; County Conservation District; and the PA DER, Bureau of Water Quality Management, **Water Quality Assessment Reports.** Additionally, the *Water Quality and Biological Assessment of the Juniata River Subbasin Report*, published by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission in 1997 was used.

**Drainage**

Drainage is the natural process of the downhill flow of all water from the land to the seas and the means by which the water is carried. The land areas that contribute water to ditches, sewers, channels, streams, and rivers are called drainage basins. Drainage basins are directly determined by the topography of the land.

The drainage basins for Huntingdon County are housed within the Susquehanna River Basin, which provides 90 percent of the freshwater inflows to the upper Chesapeake Bay and 50 percent overall, has a major influence on the water quality of the bay’s upper and middle areas.

The Juniata River Basin, a major subbasin of the Susquehanna River Basin, includes all of Huntingdon County. Huntingdon County is part of two major subbasins of the Juniata River Basin: 1) The upper Juniata River subbasin, including the western half of Huntingdon County, all of Blair County, the northern two-thirds of Bedford County, and small portions Fulton, Centre, and Cambria Counties. The subbasin encompasses 1,943 square miles with a total of 2,430.2 stream miles. The subbasin is made up of the Raystown the and Frankstown Branches of the Juniata River and the Little Juniata River. 2) The Lower Juniata subbasin drains 1,462 square miles encompassing 1,781.6 stream miles. The subbasin includes the southeastern third of Huntingdon County, all of Mifflin and Juniata Counties, the northern half of Perry County, and small parts of Snyder, Centre, Fulton, and Franklin Counties. The subbasin is made up of the main stem of the Juniata River and its tributaries, including Aughwick Creek, Kishacoquillas Creek, and Tuscarora Creek.

Huntingdon County contains 9 minor drainage basins, which are identified in the Watersheds Map 26. The streams contained within these basins are identified and detailed in Table 17.

**TABLE 17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJOR STREAMS</th>
<th>Tributary to...</th>
<th>Watershed at Mouth (Sq. Mile)</th>
<th>Juniata River Accumulative Drainage Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spruce Creek</td>
<td>Little Juniata</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Juniata</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankstown Branch</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shavers Creek</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Stone</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Trough Creek</td>
<td>Raystown Branch</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raystown Branch</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>965</td>
<td>1,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aughwick</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>2,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuscarora Creek</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Water Quality**

This section offers a brief summary of water quality for the major and minor subbasins in Huntingdon County. Although it is beyond the scope of this report to supply an in depth analysis, such information can be found in the reports listed at the beginning of this section.

**Susquehanna River Basin** Long-term monitoring, up to 12 years at some stations, indicates significant decreasing trends in flow-corrected concentrations in the Susquehanna River Basin at the six stations monitored by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC). Although there were no significant changes in phosphorus concentrations at the upper station near New York and the western Susquehanna station in Lewistown, decreasing trends were detected in the central and southern parts of the basins where population density and agricultural activity are greatest. The phosphorous trends indicate a cumulative effect of agricultural best management practices, sewage treatment upgrades, and the phosphate detergent ban. The agricultural management is perhaps the most significant because the majority of pollutants in the streams for the subbasins of Huntingdon County come from agricultural runoff.

Results from monitoring activities earlier this decade indicated steady or increasing trends in nitrogen. However, additional data collected over the last few years indicate improvements (decreasing levels) in nitrogen at all six stations. While the reasons for the improvements are not as clear for nitrogen as they are for phosphorous, the nitrogen trends indicate a cumulative water quality response for both natural and anthropogenic activities.

**Juniata River Basin** The water quality of the Juniata River is greatly dependent on upstream point and non-point discharges. The entire Altoona Metropolitan Area sits astride the headwaters of the Little Juniata and Frankstown Branch. Huntingdon County has benefitted from improvements made in Altoona, Roaring Springs, Hollidaysburg and Tyrone over the past 25 years. Major sources of agricultural run-off are found in both Bedford and Blair Counties.

Like many other rivers in Pennsylvania, the Juniata River is vulnerable to waste dumping or occidental spills along the many miles of highways and railroads which parallel the river. In 1996, an unexplained pollution event killed the majority of the macroinvertebrates in the Little Juniata River between Ironville and Spruce Creek. The major source of reported water quality problems in this subbasin are: other point sources (10.7 miles), natural conditions (10.2 miles); industrial point sources (9 miles); urban

The Little Juniata and the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River have demonstrated reduced water quality due to elevated levels of chemical contamination and fecal coliform concentration. The majority of this contamination has been attributed to industrial and municipal discharges located along the stretch of river from Altoona to Tyrone.

The Raystown Branch of the Juniata River basin has relatively good water quality. However, water quality in the area above Raystown Lake has been affected by contamination from AMD and/or sewage discharges. Water quality is also impacted by pesticides and other chemical runoff from agricultural fields. Nutrient loading from agricultural runoff (manure) also contributes to the eutrophication of receiving waters. These impacts have further affected aquatic habitat and wildlife, water supplies, and water treatment systems. Nutrient loading in the upper end of the reservoir is moderately high due to upstream municipalities and agricultural runoff. The long retention time of the reservoir results in a significant reduction of the nutrients in the river below the dam.

The water quality of Raystown Lake is generally good. It is suitable for water-contact recreation and is capable of supporting a diverse and healthy aquatic life. During the summer, the lake develops strong thermal stratification. Because of the 30-mile length of the lake, its curvilinear form, and its depth, water quality can vary considerably from one location to another. The outflow from the lake is normally of very good quality and quite clear, containing very low concentrations of suspended sediment. Because of the lake’s large volume and depth, the outflow temperature is not rapidly affected by changing climatic conditions. Most of the outflow is released from the warmer upper levels of the lake, based on the management objectives for the warm-water downstream fishery.

The major source of reported water quality problems in this subbasin is agriculture. Agricultural sources are responsible for degradation in 91.2 miles of streams, 40.6 percent of the degraded miles. Major problems are reported in the 44.4 miles in the Raystown Branch basin which includes 17.3 miles on Yellow Creek. Other problems reported are in Dunning Creek (40.4 miles) with 20.1 miles on Cove Creek, both of which are outside Huntingdon County.

Onsite wastewater system (on-lot sewage disposal) malfunctions are reported as responsible for degrading 45.7 miles of streams in the subbasin, or 20.4 percent of the miles degraded. All of these problems affected less than 10 stream miles. The primary pollutant associated with the on-lot disposal problem is bacteria/pathogens.

The other sources of stream degradation in the subbasin are: other point sources (10.7 miles), natural conditions (10.2 miles); industrial point sources (9 miles); urban
runoff/storm sewers (6 miles); atmospheric deposition (5.5 miles); municipal point sources (2.4 miles); combined sewer overflows (2.1 miles); and other nonpoint sources (1 mile).

**Lower Juniata River Basin** A total of 946.9 miles of rivers and streams (215 segments) have been assessed in the lower Juniata River subbasin. Of these, 938 miles, or 99.1 percent, fully support designated uses. Only 8.9 miles are reported as deteriorated; all 8.9 miles are reported as partially supporting uses. Only 4.9 stream miles are reported as impacted by nonpoint sources.

Sources of degradation in this subbasin are agriculture (3.5 miles), municipal point sources (2 miles), other point sources (2 miles), and other nonpoint sources (1.4 miles).

The major waterbody with reported degradation is Kiskacoquillas Creek, with 5.5 miles impacted, 3.5 miles by agriculture and 2 miles by municipal point sources.

**Table 18** summarizes the stream conditions according to habitat and biological measures taken in late 1996 by the Chesapeake Bay Study on the Juniata River Basin. The streams listed are all in Huntingdon County.

### TABLE 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Stream</th>
<th>Sample Site</th>
<th>Habitat Condition</th>
<th>Biological Condition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aughwick Creek (downstream of Three Springs Creek)</td>
<td>AUGH17.2</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Slightly Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aughwick Creek upstream of Route 103</td>
<td>AUGH00.4</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacklog Creek upstream of Peterson Road Bridge</td>
<td>BLLOG04.6</td>
<td>Supporting</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacklog Creek upstream of Orbisonia</td>
<td>BLLOG00.9</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Slightly Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankstown Branch Juniata River upstream of Alexandria</td>
<td>FRNKO1.6</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Slightly Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Trough Creek at Trough Creek State Park</td>
<td>GTRC02.9</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Slightly Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata River at Huntingdon</td>
<td>JUN94.0</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata River at Mapleton Depot</td>
<td>JUN84.6</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Moderately Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Aughwick Creek near Brownsville</td>
<td>LAUG00.1</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Juniata near Barree</td>
<td>LUN03.8</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Slightly Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raystown Branch at Hopewell</td>
<td>RAYS54.1</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Stream</th>
<th>Sample Site</th>
<th>Habitat Condition</th>
<th>Biological Condition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raystown Branch downstream of Raystown Dam</td>
<td>RAYS04.6</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Moderately Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raystown Branch upstream of Saxton</td>
<td>RAYS42.8</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Slightly Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Creek upstream of Shade Gap</td>
<td>SHAD4.3</td>
<td>Supporting</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaver Creek downstream of SR. 4011</td>
<td>SHAV01.4</td>
<td>NonSupporting</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spruce Creek at PA Boat Commission area</td>
<td>SPRU01.0</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spruce Creek at Route 45 Bridge</td>
<td>SPRU10.6</td>
<td>Supporting</td>
<td>Moderately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Stone Creek upstream of SR1023</td>
<td>STST26.8</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Stone Creek at Huntingdon</td>
<td>STST01.0</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Spring Creek near Three Springs, PA</td>
<td>TSPC00.1</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Nonimpaired</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Chesapeake Bay Study

### Groundwater Sources

The predominant rock type in Huntingdon County is a sequence of alternating shale, sandstone, and limestone of the Paleozoic Age. The rocks in this sequence can yield to individual wells 20 to 1,000 gallons per minute, averaging 125 gallons per minute of soft and very hard water. The limestones and dolomites are presently the most productive aquifers. Large springs, some producing several thousand gallons of hard water per minute, issue from the rocks. The sandstones are potentially good sources of water. Many of the wells that tap sandstones are used only for domestic purposes, as many municipalities are supplied by surface water, except where yields are 100 to 550 gallons per minute or more. The shales supply water that is generally high in iron and hydrogen sulfate. They ordinarily do not supply more than 75 gallons per minute per well.

### Stormwater

Flooding is the most frequent and damaging natural hazard affecting Central Pennsylvania. Steep mountain ridges and frequent heavy rainfall combine to cause the Juniata River and its tributaries to flood. Since most of the county’s boroughs and rural villages are located along streams, flooding causes major damage. Famous Huntingdon County floods include those of 1889, 1936, 1972 and 1996. In the recent 1996 flood over $7,066,019 in damages was experienced by Huntingdon County.

Both the state and federal governments have recognized the seriousness of flooding through the passage of legislation. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for dealing with natural disasters and for managing the Federal Flood Insurance Program. FEMA has mapped areas affected by the 100 and 500 year floods throughout Huntingdon County. In order to be eligible to purchase flood insurance, municipalities must regulate and discourage development within the 100-year flood plain. Approximately 27,284 acres or 4.8% of the County is within the 100-year flood plain. These areas are mapped as a development constraint on Map 23.
In 1978, the Pennsylvania Legislature passed the Storm Water Management Act (Act 167). This act provides the framework for improved management of stormwater run-off, coordinates all stormwater activities within each watershed and encourages local administration and management of stormwater management activities. Under Act 167 counties must develop stormwater plans for every watershed. These plans are focused on mitigating the effects of development on downstream areas during storm events.

While stormwater run-off is a natural event, unrestricted development and the associated increase in impervious surface creates run-off which exceeds the capacity of natural drainage courses. This results in flooding, overloaded wastewater treatment plants, and degradation of water quality due to soil erosion and run-off from streets and parking lots.

Huntingdon County has 19 major watersheds for stormwater planning purposes (shown on Map 26). A stormwater Management Plan has been developed for only one of these watersheds, the Muddy Run Watershed in Huntingdon Borough, due to a lack of state and local funding. The Huntingdon County Commissioners have designated the Huntingdon County Conservation District as the lead agency for stormwater planning purposes.

Acid Mine Drainage (AMD)
Past coal practices have resulted in scarred landscapes, massive coal refuse or culm AMD affected banks, and AMD affected streams. The low pH indicative of AMD, the toxic properties of heavy metals and the smothering effects of iron precipitates render a stream severely affected by AMD as a “biological wasteland.”

Acid mine drainage contributes to ground- and surface water contamination in the Broad Top region of Huntingdon County. Contamination from deep mine workings is either discharged directly from a mine entry (usually abandoned) or may become impounded in one of the mine water ponds until the pond overflows and discharges.

Strip-mining has occurred predominately at higher elevations where coal seams are closer to the surface, such as the Broad Top region. The stripped areas are rough as a result of stripping done prior to current reclamation legislation. While some unclaimed strips have become revegetated, the majority remain barren. These unreclaimed strips collect direct precipitation, surface runoff, and groundwater. In some cases, this water finds its way deep into mine workings through fissures in the bottom of strip cuts, or through deep mine workings exposed by surface mining activity. Abandoned mines can also create severe sedimentation and erosion problems, as well as safety hazards.

One example of the complex relationship between the geology and underground workings in the Broad Top region is the drainage at Shoups Run. The largest volume of mine drainage exits from an abandoned mine entry in the Borough of Dudley, which begins in the Trough Creek Area. The interconnected deep mine workings allow this drainage to flow underground and to discharge into Shoups Run.

Wetlands
Wetlands are transitional lands between terrestrial and aquatic systems in which the water table is at or near the surface, or in which the land is covered by shallow water. The water is present in sufficient amounts to support vegetation that is typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, as in swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. The identification of these resources is important for both the protection of the wetlands and the protection of human life and property.

In recent years there has been much interest in the protection and regulation of wetland areas. Wetlands may be generally viewed as transitional lands between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is at or near the surface, or in which the land is covered by shallow water. They exhibit one or more of the wetland characteristics of hydrophytic plants (i.e. plants that grow in wet areas), hydric soils (i.e. wet soils, see previous section), and the presence of water (i.e. hydrology) at some point during the growing season.

The federal definition of wetlands is, “Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions including swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.” The Pennsylvania Dam Safety and Encroachments Act of 1978 defines a body of water to include a natural or artificial lake, pond, reservoir, swamp, marsh or wetland, and further notes that bodies of water, water courses, streams, and floodways are Regulated Waters of the Commonwealth, under PA DER jurisdiction.

Wetlands and wet environments, together with large amounts of nutrients, often result in an abundance of vegetation. This material traps the sun’s energy and is the driving force in the wetland. This causes wetlands to become very productive and rich with diverse species. Wetlands also act as a filter, improving water quality, and also aid in flood control. Among the more common wetland types in Pennsylvania are forested wetlands, scrub-shrub wetlands, and emergent wetlands.

Forested wetlands are wet habitats where large woody trees (usually over 20 feet in height) are found. Trees may include red or silver maple, river birch, blackgum, green ash, and similar species. Approximately 45 percent of the wetlands in Pennsylvania are in this classification.
Eleven areas in Huntingdon County monitored by the Bureau of Air Quality are in attainment of the air quality standard for sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide. For comparative purposes, the longest term applicable air quality standard is utilized as the full-scale value of the graph. The Bureau recorded zone exceedances in the Southeast Pennsylvania and Lancaster air basins in 1995. Huntingdon County is in compliance with federal clean air levels.

Total suspended particulate matter (TSP) is represented by annual geometric means for the years 1986 to 1995. TSP levels decreased slightly in 1995 to levels experienced in 1990, with only an 8 percent improvement in the last 10 years. PM10 particulate matter is represented by the annual arithmetic means for the years 1986 to 1995. There was a major increase in the number of PM10 monitoring sites in 1989 to provide better coverage across the Commonwealth. Monitored levels of PM10 levels in 1995 have improved 25 percent from levels observed in 1986. PM10 levels have shown no improvement over the last 3 years. Sulfates are represented by the maximum monthly mean during the year. Sulfate levels have shown little long-term improvement over the last 10 years and have continually exceeded the 30-day air quality standard. Lead, for the years 1986 to 1995, is represented by the maximum quarter during the year. Lead concentrations have leveled off in the last 10 years after dramatic reductions seen in the late 1970s to early 1980s due to the implementation of lead-free gasoline. Lead levels have improved by 65 percent over the last ten years.

Sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide for the years 1986 to 1995 are represented by annual means. These two pollutants have shown slight improvements over the last 10 years. Sulfur dioxide levels are 38 percent lower than 1986 and nitrogen dioxide levels are 15 percent lower than 1986. The ozone trend is shown for 1986 to 1995 as the number of days on which a site in the Commonwealth reported an hourly value greater than 0.12 parts per million. Ozone is erratic by nature and levels fluctuate depending on weather conditions. Ozone exceedance days have improved dramatically since 1988, in part because of controls in the release of volatile organic compounds which are a main component of the atmospheric chemistry that creates ozone.

**Acid Rain**

Studies in recent years have shown that the pH of Pennsylvania rainfall averages 4.1 to 4.3, which is nearly 1,000 times the acidity of neutral water. Pennsylvania receives one of the highest concentrations of acid rain deposition in the world.

Scientists can measure the amount of acidity in water by using the pH scale. This scale runs from 0-14. The lower the number on the scale, the stronger the acid, with the value 7.0 being neutral. For example, "pure" rain, which is slightly acidic, has a pH level of 5.6, lemon juice has a pH level of 2.0, and battery acid has a pH level of 1.0.
Precipitation with a pH lower than 5.6 is considered acid rain. The pH scale is logarithmic, which means that there is a tenfold difference between one number and the next. For instance, rain with a pH level of 4.0 is ten times more acidic than that with a pH of 5.0, and one hundred times more acidic than that with a pH of 6.0.

Department of Environmental Protection data from Pennsylvania’s Acid Rain Monitoring Program indicates that acid rain in Pennsylvania was reduced as much as 25 percent in 1995. Similar reductions were reported by the U.S. Geological Survey for the nation’s Northeast. In both instances, conclusions were drawn after comparing 1995 data with data collected from 1983 to 1994. Since Pennsylvania has one of the highest concentrations of acid rain in the nation, it is encouraging to see the progress in reducing the pollutants that contribute to acid rain.

The results of the monitoring show that sulfate deposition, a component of acid rain, varied across the state. The southcentral region had the greatest reduction in sulfate deposition in the state, as much as 25 percent. The southeastern area had 15 to 20 percent reductions, while the southwest hit the 20 percent mark. The lowest reductions occurred in the north-central and northwest regions, where both had a maximum 15 percent drop, and in northeast Pennsylvania, which showed 10 to 15 percent reductions.

The reductions resulted primarily from implementation of Phase I of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. Utilities forged ahead in their efforts to comply not only with Phase I requirements, but also with future requirements. These efforts resulted in much higher reductions of SO2 emissions and demonstrated a commitment on behalf of the utilities to attain cleaner, healthier air.

Forest Lands
The total forest land of Huntingdon County, as measured by the PA Bureau of Forestry for 1995, was 391,800 acres from a total land area of 563,700 acres. Ownership of the forest land is overwhelmingly private with 244,100 acres, or 62.3 percent, belonging to the private sector. Although, Huntingdon County contains a considerable amount of forested ground, the majority of it is unprotected in the hands of private owners. The state-owned gamelands and forests amass only 19.6 percent of the total forest, or 76,700 acres. See Tables 19 and 20 for details.

### Table 19
**TOTAL FOREST AREA BY LAND CLASS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Land</th>
<th>Total Forest</th>
<th>Timberland</th>
<th>Other Forest Land</th>
<th>Reserved Timberland</th>
<th>Non-forest Land</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>563.7</td>
<td>391.8</td>
<td>422.5</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>141.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
<td>74.9%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ownership of Timberland by Area**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Land</th>
<th>Misc. Federal</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>County/Municipality</th>
<th>Forest Industry</th>
<th>Farmer/Rancher</th>
<th>Private Corporation</th>
<th>Private Individual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>391.8</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>244.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Bureau of Forestry, 1997

### Table 20
**AREA OF TIMBER BY FOREST TYPE GROUP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Land</th>
<th>White-Red Jack Pine</th>
<th>Loblolly-shortleaf Pine Planted</th>
<th>- Natural</th>
<th>Oak Pine</th>
<th>Oak Hickory</th>
<th>Maple/ Beech /Birch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>391.8</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>275.9</td>
<td>60.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AREA OF TIMBER BY STAND-SIZE CLASS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Land</th>
<th>Saw Timber</th>
<th>Pole Timber</th>
<th>Sapling-Seedling</th>
<th>Non-stocked Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>391.8</td>
<td>197.8</td>
<td>134.4</td>
<td>59.7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>50.5</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Bureau of Forestry, 1997
Community Facilities and Infrastructure

Community Facilities
  Government
  Municipal Buildings
  Educational Facilities
  Recreational facilities
  Public Services
  Public Buildings and Facilities

Community Infrastructure
  Water Facilities
  Sanitary Sewer Facilities
  Refuse
  Recycling
  Public Utilities
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, 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 is an important factor in ensuring the stability and the future development of a community.

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 is an important factor in ensuring the stability and the future development of a community.

Government

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has created various types of local government to provide services and local services to its citizens. In fact, some have said that Pennsylvania has an over abundance of local governments, with over 2,500 counties, cities, boroughs, townships, and special purpose authorities. The powers of local boroughs and townships are authorized by state law in the borough and township codes unless voters have adopted some form of local home rule. There are no home rule municipalities in Huntingdon County.

Huntingdon County, one of 67 counties, is a sixth class county and is governed by a three member Board of Commissioners. The County is responsible for the administration of the local court system, social services, collection of real estate taxes and various administrative functions. Many county functions are administered by officials elected to various “row offices”: Treasurer, Prothonotary, Recorder of Deeds, Coroner, Sheriff. County Commissioners have taxing and budgeting authority and appoint various boards and commissions including: Planning Commission, Industrial Development Authority, Housing Authority, and the Library Board. County's have the power to adopt zoning and subdivision ordinances, but these may be superceded by municipally adopted ordinances.

At the municipal level, Huntingdon County is served by 18 boroughs and 30 townships of the second class. All municipalities exercise a similar range of duties ranging from maintenance of local roads and streets, operating community facilities such as water and sewer and providing for the general welfare through the adoption of ordinances such as local zoning and subdivision. As is shown on Table 5, there are seven (7) local zoning ordinances, twenty-five (25) subdivision and land development ordinances and 46 building permit ordinances among the county’s forty-eight municipalities.

Boroughs have a “weak-major” system of government. In this system the borough council has a great deal power, the mayor has no veto and is charged with administering the police department. Council members are elected “at large” by the entire borough. In Huntingdon County two boroughs employ professional full-time borough managers to oversee the day-to-day operation of the borough. In the absence of a borough manager, the borough secretary usually acts as the chief administrative official.

At the second class township level, three supervisors are elected at large. They serve in both an administrative and legislative capacity. The supervisors, like borough councils and mayors, serve on a part-time and are compensated for the position they hold. A township secretary is hired to keep township records and usually functions as the township’s chief administrative official.

Huntingdon County’s boroughs and townships have created nineteen (19) special purpose municipal authorities to carry out various local government functions. These municipal authorities are typically involved in the construction and management of water and wastewater utilities and have no taxing authority. Huntingdon County is also served by six local school districts.

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.

Municipal Buildings

Of forty-eight municipalities in Huntingdon County, twenty-eight 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, and Warriors Mark Township, Penn Township, Jackson Township, and Henderson Township.
Of thirty townships, thirteen do not have a municipal building. Of the eighteen boroughs, four do not have municipal buildings. On this page is Table 21, which lists all the municipalities and their facilities.

### TABLE 21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Muni. Bldg.</th>
<th>Name/Meeting Place</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Description of Building and Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Scout House</td>
<td>P.O. Box 291, Alexandria</td>
<td>Center of Shilton &amp; Bridge St., voting, church groups, private rentals, Boy/Girl Scout meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barree Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham Bor.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Presbyterian Church</td>
<td></td>
<td>Borough meetings in church facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Route 555</td>
<td>1 Room for Boro. meetings, larger room, garage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Bor.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>B.T. Community Ct.</td>
<td>Broad Street</td>
<td>Meeting room, kitchen, private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Community Bldg.</td>
<td>Star Route, Cassville</td>
<td>Meeting room for Boro. and Twp., private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassville Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Community Bldg.</td>
<td>Star Route, Cassville</td>
<td>Meeting room for Boro. and Twp., private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Box 311</td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coalmine Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Hall</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Box 311</td>
<td>Meeting room, small storage room, private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Route 2016</td>
<td>Meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Shade Gap Fire Hall</td>
<td>Shade Gap</td>
<td>Township facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Community Bldg.</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>Meeting room, offset kitchen, private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7 Stars Farm Office</td>
<td>Route 45</td>
<td>7 Stars Farm office on premises for Twp. use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>Nuner's Hallow Road</td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>St. Paul's United Church</td>
<td>Route 26, RD 1</td>
<td>Elections, and meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>630 Washington St.</td>
<td>All municipal functions and offices - also housed: 911 Center, Police, holding cell, patrol room,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council Chambers, conference room, Chamber of Commerce, and police training room and lockers in basement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeniata Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Box 366</td>
<td>Meeting in 2nd Monday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>R.D. #2, Box 8A</td>
<td>Meeting is 1st Monday of every month at 7:30.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Shaffersville School House</td>
<td>Route 22 and Hollow Road</td>
<td>Room bldg., mun meetings, civic groups such as Historical Society, private parties w/o rental fee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Union Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>9 West Market Street</td>
<td>Library, Borough offices, garage Council Chambers, Mun. Authority, other civic group meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Fire Hall</td>
<td>R.D. #4, Huntingdon</td>
<td>For facility for meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Elliot Street</td>
<td>A large 1st floor room for meetings, 2nd floor room Orbisonia-Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pea Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Box 6</td>
<td>Meetings only, Twp. owns maintenance shed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburgh Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>King Street</td>
<td>Police Department and meeting room - old school house.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Office</td>
<td>Route 303 and Bridge St.</td>
<td>Meeting room, Workshop in back separate bldg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill Furnace Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Meadows Street</td>
<td>Election office, formerly resid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltlick Bor.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meetings, banquet facilities, elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Gap Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>Meetings, elections, and reunion facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>West Street</td>
<td>2 rooms (1 meeting room, 1 office), civic groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Center</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>19th Street and Mt. Vernon</td>
<td>Commercial office and 1 tax collector office - separate bldg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>39th Street and Mt. Vernon</td>
<td>Police department and meeting room - old school house.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>R.D. #1 Box 271</td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spruce Creek Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>R.D. #1 Box 157</td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tell Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>State Route 7000</td>
<td>Trailer purchased by Twp. as office, formerly resid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Bor.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Fire Hall</td>
<td>Ashman Street</td>
<td>Borough meetings in facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Route 929 south of SR 422</td>
<td>Meeting room, 1 office, garage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Boulevard Street</td>
<td>Large meeting room, 1 chamber/office area, back office rented to businesses, 2 restrooms, file room, and storage, private parties and other civic meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Fire Hall</td>
<td>Fire House Road, 534</td>
<td>Borough meetings in facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Fire Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td>Borough meetings in facility behind truck storage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>RWBT Fire Hall</td>
<td>P.O. Box 8, Robertsdale</td>
<td>Borough meetings in facility.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Municipalities, 1997
Educational Facilities

Public Schools Serving Huntingdon County

The following six tables summarize the public school system serving Huntingdon County. There are four school districts located in and primarily serving Huntingdon County: Huntingdon Area, Juniata Valley, Mount Union (partially serving Mifflin County), and Southern Huntingdon County. The Tussey Mountain Area and Tyrone Area School Districts are located partially in Huntingdon County and within Bedford and Blair Counties, respectively. Data and analysis are provided for each district in alphabetical order. For a locational reference see the Educational Resources Map 27, which identifies public and private schools, libraries, and school districts.

1. Huntingdon Area School District  The administrative office is located at 2400 Cassady Avenue in Huntingdon, PA. The district serves: Brady, Henderson, Jackson, Juniata, Lincoln, Miller, Oneida, Penn, and Smithfield Townships, and Huntingdon, Marklesburg, and Mill Creek Boroughs. In 1997 the district has 185 teachers and 286 total employees. As shown in Table 22, enrollment has declined slightly since 1986. Work including renovations and the beginning of the construction of two new elementary schools in 1997 will consolidate the number of elementary schools from 6 to 4. See Table 23.

**TABLE 22**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HUNTINGDON AREA ENROLLMENT, 1987-1996</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Juniata Valley School District  The administrative office is located at R.D. #1 in Alexandria, PA. The district serves Logan, Porter, West Town, Morris, and Spruce Creek Townships, and Alexandria, Petersburg, and Berry Boroughs. In 1997 the district has 71 teachers and 99 total employees. As shown in Table 24, enrollment has declined slightly since 1986, but overall has remained around 1,000 students on average per school year. Some renovations are planned for 1997. See Table 25.

**TABLE 23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HUNTINGDON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 24

JUNIATA VALLEY ENROLLMENT, 1988-1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>1,024</td>
<td>1,036</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>1,001</td>
<td>1,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>-4.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

TABLE 25

JUNIATA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name/Address</th>
<th>1996 Number of Teachers</th>
<th>1996 Number of Students</th>
<th>Major Renovations/ New Buildings Planned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Juniata Valley Elementary</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>Underway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serves: K-6</td>
<td></td>
<td>R.D. #1 Box 318, Alexandria, PA 16611</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior-Senior High School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Juniata Jr.-Sr. High School</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

3. Mount Union Area School District

The administrative office is located at 28 West Market Street, Mount Union, PA. The district serves the following Huntingdon County municipalities: Union and Shirley Townships, and Mapleton, Mount Union, and Shireysburg Boroughs. In 1997 the district has 121 teachers and 198 total employees. As shown in Table 26, Enrollment has declined slightly since 1986, but overall has remained around 1,717 students on average per school year. Some renovations are planned for 1997. See Table 27.

TABLE 26

MOUNT UNION AREA ENROLLMENT, 1988-1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>1,699</td>
<td>1,721</td>
<td>1,734</td>
<td>1,739</td>
<td>1,712</td>
<td>1,709</td>
<td>1,701</td>
<td>1,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

4. Southern Huntingdon County School District

The administrative office is located at R.R. #1, Box 1124, Three Springs, PA. The district serves: Cass, Clay, Cromwell, Dublin, Springfield, and Tell Townships, and Cassville, Orbisonia, Rockhill, Saltillo, Shade Gap, and Three Springs Boroughs. In 1997 the school has 99 teachers and 151 total employees. As shown in Table 28, Enrollment has declined slightly since 1986, but overall has remained around 1,427 students on average per school year. No renovations are planned for 1997. See Table 29.
Public Schools Partially Serving Huntingdon County

1. Tyrone Area School District  The administrative office is located at 1317 Lincoln Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686. The district serves: Taylor, Franklin, and Snyder Townships, and Tyrone, in Blair County, and Birmingham and Warrior's Mark Boroughs in Huntingdon County. See Table 30. In 1997 the district has 128 teachers and 270 total employees. As shown in Table 31, enrollment has declined slightly since 1986, but overall has remained around 2,200 students on average per school year. Some renovations are planned for 1997.

2. Tussey Mountain School District  The administrative office is located at R.D. 1 Box 178A, Saxton, PA 16678. The district serves: Carbon, Hopewell, and Todd Townships, and Broad Top City, Coalmont, and Dudley Boroughs. See Table 32. In 1997 the district has 103 teachers and 155 total employees. As shown in Table 33, enrollment has declined slightly since 1986, but overall has remained around 1,340 students on average per school year.

---

### TABLE 28

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Southern Huntingdon County School District</th>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name/Address</th>
<th>1996 Number of Teachers</th>
<th>1996 Number of Students</th>
<th>Major Renovations/New Buildings Planned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Serves: K-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rockhill Elementary</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Shade Gap Elementary</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring Farms Elementary</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Trough Creek Valley Elementary</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior-Senior Serves: 7-12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Southern Huntingdon Junior-Senior High</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

### TABLE 29

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>1,428</td>
<td>1,414</td>
<td>1,418</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>1,437</td>
<td>1,439</td>
<td>1,423</td>
<td>1,422</td>
<td>1,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

### TABLE 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tyrone Area School District</th>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>1996 Number of Teachers</th>
<th>1996 Number of Students</th>
<th>Major Renovations/New Buildings Planned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Serves: K-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Adams Elementary</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Logan Elementary</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lincoln Elementary</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior-Senior Serves: 7-12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tyrone Area Junior-Senior High</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

### TABLE 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>2,163</td>
<td>2,125</td>
<td>2,165</td>
<td>2,216</td>
<td>2,243</td>
<td>2,206</td>
<td>2,164</td>
<td>2,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
<td>-1.8%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
<td>-1.9%</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices
TABLE 32

TUSSEY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name/Address</th>
<th>1996 Number of Teachers</th>
<th>1996 Number of Students</th>
<th>Major Renovations/New Buildings Planned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Robertsdale Elementary School</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>Completed in the early 1980s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Serves: K-6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robertsdale, PA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior-Senior</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Saxton Liberty Elementary School</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>same</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serves: 7-12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Saxton, PA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1997 School District Administrative Offices

In addition, HCAVTS offers customized programs based on business needs, occupational demand or citizens input as part of their continuing education initiatives and adult education programming.

Private Schools and Academies

1. Calvary Christian Academy A private institution located at 300 Standing Stone Avenue, Huntingdon, the Calvary Christian Academy uses the A-Beka curriculum and currently enrolls 95 students in grades K through 12. This academy offers a complete sports program and has a faculty of 7 persons. The school is operated by the Calvary Independent Baptist Church.

2. Huntingdon Christian Academy A Christian Academy with 23 students enrolled in grades K through 12, this school is a ministry of the Emmanuel Baptist Church. The A-Beka curriculum and the materials of the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) program are utilized. There is a limited sports program, and a teaching faculty of 3 persons.

3. The Grier School A non-sectarian college-preparatory boarding school for girls in grades 7 through 12, the Grier School was established in 1853 near the Blair/Huntingdon County border. This institution currently has 165 students enrolled. Approximately 45 percent are from foreign countries. With an accredited academic program, a strong social program, and varied sports and dance programs, the Grier School has a teaching faculty of 40 persons. The Allegheny Riding Camp is a well recognized equestrian program of this school.

Technical Schools

1. Huntingdon County Area Vocational-Technical School HCAVTS is a half-time technical school providing vocational training to 330 secondary students. Students attend one-half day at HCAVTS and one-half day at their "home" school. Adults may attend day-time classes with the teenage students in any program with a vacancy. The school also sponsors evening programs for adults in the fall and spring. With a teaching faculty of approximately 14 qualified instructors and two aides, HCAVTS offers hands-on training in the following skill areas:

- Automotive Body Repair
- Automotive Mechanics
- Building Construction Occupations
- Computer Service Technology
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Electrical Occupations/Electronics Technology
- Health Assistant
- Horticulture/Floriculture
- Marketing and Distributive Education
- Metal Working Occupations
- Plumbing and Heating
- Practical Nursing

In addition, HCAVTS offers customized programs based on business needs, occupational demand or citizens input as part of their continuing education initiatives and adult education programming.

Private Schools and Academies

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- Air Conditioning/Refrigeration
4. **Catholic Schools**  There are no Catholic schools within Huntingdon County; however, students can enroll in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese schools in neighboring Blair County.

5. **Wright Co.**  Located on Route 22 near the Blair County line.

**Advanced Education**

1. **Juniata College**  Located at 1700 Moore Street in Huntingdon Borough, Juniata College is a four-year undergraduate, independent liberal arts college that is highly regarded for academic excellence. Juniata has an annual enrollment of 1,050 students with 92 percent living on campus. The college offers traditional bachelor of science and bachelor of arts programs, but it also allows students to create their own "program emphasis," combining multiple academic programs. Juniata's natural science program is particularly well respected, and its placement rates into medical, dental, and veterinary schools average 90 percent. Class sizes are small, with an average student-to-teacher ratio of 13:1. Although many faculty members are engaged in research, their first commitment is teaching.

2. **DuBois Business College**  In September of 1996, DuBois Business College (headquartered in nearby Clearfield County) commenced operations of its second branch, located on the campus of Juniata College. DuBois recently purchased the former Huntingdon Borough Building at 10th and More Streets with plans to begin holding classes at this location in January 1998. DuBois Business College will commence operations with a limited offering of accredited associate degree programs in business and clerical occupations. However, the college is fully accredited and can offer a wide variety of two year associate degree programs as the local needs become more apparent. Prior to the opening of the school year, advance enrollment figures listed 60 pre-registered students and 4 faculty members on staff.

3. **Penn State University**  Penn State University (main campus) is located in University Park, Centre County, which is 30 miles north of Huntingdon on PA Route 26. Penn State is the post-secondary school which draws a very large segment of local students. Nearly 38,000 students attend graduate and undergraduate classes at University Park. PSU is both a research and teaching institution with course offerings in 11 colleges and schools. Among its outstanding programs are agricultural sciences, business, engineering, and meteorology.

**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. While some recreational facilities serve the needs of local residents, Huntingdon county has many facilities which draw visitors from a wide region benefiting the local economy. The character of the lands that support recreation benefit the community by promoting higher land 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, Rothrock State Forest occupies over 21,000 acres of land in Union, Cass, 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. Table 34 is a list of all State Forests and local natural areas located in Huntingdon County, with their available facilities.

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 28.
**TABLE 34**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Twp.</td>
<td>Greenwood Furnace</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>30 Campsites, Picnic Tables, Bathhouse, Amphitheater, Concession Stand, 5 ac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady Twp.</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Twp.</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin, Spruce Crk, Morris</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logansport Twp.</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6,024</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Marked Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn &amp; Lincoln Twp.</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,489</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Twp.</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3,900</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Playgrounds equipment, Basketball court, Field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union, Cass, Todd Twp.</td>
<td>Rothrock State Forest</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9,418</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spruce Creek Twp.</td>
<td>Union Furnace Area</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Picnic tables, Hiking trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Twp.</td>
<td>West Branch Area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barlow Twp.</td>
<td>Timbervale</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Twp.</td>
<td>Trough Creek State Park</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Picnic tables, 15 acre lake, Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Twp.</td>
<td>Whipple Dam State Park</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Picnic tables, 1/2 acre lake, Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Twp.</td>
<td>Altoona State Park</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Twp.</td>
<td>Altoona State Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,849</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntington County Planning Department

**State Game Lands**

The county has over 35,000 acres of State Game Lands in 12 areas throughout Huntington. **Table 36** provides information on each game land.

**TABLE 36**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henderson &amp; Brady Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #112</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5,686</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millis Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #112</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #118</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #118</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,821</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #118</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #211</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #211</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #211</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1,185</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #131</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #166</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin &amp; Tell Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #251</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4,452</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #278</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #167</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4,393</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #167</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2,469</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #171</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #72</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2,430</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #73</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,620</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #73-2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #81</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,387</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #81</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,128</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #99</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>890</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay &amp; Cromwell Twp.</td>
<td>State Game Lands #99</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,404</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>35,712</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department

**Trails of Huntingdon County**

The nine trails that run throughout the county are listed in **Table 35**. Recently, an additional trail has been proposed to extend the Mid-State Trail through Morris Township along the southeastern border of the county. These trails provide many hiking opportunities for the county residents. Biking activities on the trails are very limited due to trail widths and conditions.

**TABLE 35**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Franklin &amp; Spruce Creek Twp.</td>
<td>Mid-State Trail</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Marked Trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson, Barre, West Twp.</td>
<td>Mid-State Trail</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Hiking &amp; Snowmobiling Trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell, Shirley</td>
<td>Link Trail</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Twp.</td>
<td>Old Loggers Trail</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Blair Trail</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Flag Pole Hill</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Iron Back Trail</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson, Miller Twp.</td>
<td>Greenwood Spur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Twp.</td>
<td>Lower Trail</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Hiking and biking, Rails to Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell, Lincoln, Todd</td>
<td>Terrace Mountain</td>
<td>5, 6, 9</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntington County Planning Department

**Federal Recreational Resources - Raystown Lake**

**Table 37** 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 37**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Twp.</td>
<td>Raystown Lake Federal Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Boat Launch, Picnic Tables with Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Twp.</td>
<td>Aitch Boat Launch</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Boat Launch, Beach, Picnic Tables with Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seven Points Recreation Area</td>
<td>3.635</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Boat Launch, Marina, Food Concession, Beach, Picnic Areas, Pavilion, Boat, Rentals, Amphitheatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raystown Lake Complex - Complex</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>8,300 Acre Water Impoundment (see other facilities, designated as part of Raystown Complex in this chart)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>202.19 NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Local Recreational Resources**

Huntingdon County contains 167 local recreational resources in forty-eight 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 Community Facilities Map 29; however, they are not identified by name.

**Municipally Owned and Operated Recreational Facilities**

In Huntingdon County twenty-two municipalities own and maintain thirty-nine local recreation resources, such as small parks, sports fields, picnic areas, etc. Ten 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-nine resources are detailed in Table 38.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Bor.</td>
<td>Broad Top City Ball Field</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Baseball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>Middletown Playground</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Playground equipment, Basketball court, Ballfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassville Bor.</td>
<td>Cassville Ball Field</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Baseball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deublin Twp.</td>
<td>Shade Gap Memorial Park</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Basketball, Field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Bor.</td>
<td>Dudley Ball Field</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Baseball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Twp.</td>
<td>Tussey Area Ball Fields</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Basketball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntington Bor.</td>
<td>Blair Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball Field, Paved Walkway, Charcoal Grills, Benches, Drinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blair's Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Little League Baseball Field, Standard Lighted Baseball, Shuffleboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Highlands &quot;The Cliffs&quot;</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Playfield, Impoundment &amp; Beach, Concession Stand, Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>West End Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Playfield with equipment, Softball field, Benches, Tennis, Courts, Horseshoe pit, Basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Twp.</td>
<td>Petersburg Ball Field</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Baseball Diamond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mapleton Swimming Pool</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Outdoor Pool and Buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mapleton Courts</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Tennis &amp; Basketball Courts, Playfield with Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Riverside Park</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Baseball Diamond, Community Buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Bor.</td>
<td>Civic Club Playground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Playfield Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marklesburg Ball Field</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Ball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Bor.</td>
<td>Devens Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Playfield with equipment, Basketball courts, Tennis courts,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mount Union Municipal Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>2 Baseball Fields, Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Catholic Hill Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Playfield with Equipment, Basketball court, Softball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Riverside Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Playfield, with equipment, Basketball Court, Picnic Tables with Pavilion,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Twp.</td>
<td>Alexandria Ball Field</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borough &amp; Twp.</td>
<td>Ballfield, Playfield Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shirleyburg Community Center</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Community Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smithfield Riverside Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Picnic Tables, Volleyball, Shelters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barree Access Area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Parking &amp; Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three Springs Square</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Lighted Area with Benches and Rest area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three Springs</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Baseball diamond, Picnic tables, Playfield with equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Swimming Pool &amp; Park</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Outdoor swimming pool, Basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trough Creek Picnic Grounds</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Picnic Tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Todd Ball Field</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Picnic Tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Little Valley Community Center</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Community Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Twp.</td>
<td>Cassville Mountain Overlook</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Scenic Overlook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Twp.</td>
<td>Bouquet Springs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Spring-Fed Pond &amp; Historical Marker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walker Township Municipal Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Twp.</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Ballfield</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Baseball Diamond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Twp.</td>
<td>Shavers Creek Valley Community Park</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Picnic Tables, Field space, Community Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Twp.</td>
<td>Robertsdale Football Field</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Football Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J. A. Coney Athletic Field</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Softball, Baseball Fields, Basketball Courts, Playfield equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robertsdale Park</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Horse Shoe Pits, Park Benches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntington County Planning Department
**Recreational Resources Operated by Educational Facilities**  The county has 21 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 700 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 39.

**TABLE 39**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barrce</td>
<td>Stone Valley Environmental Center</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>PSU</td>
<td>Rental Cottages, Group Lodges, Boat Rentals, 75 acre, Lake, Picnic Tables, Hiking Trails, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>Spring Farms Elementary School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranwell</td>
<td>Southern Huntingdon High School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Tennis Courts, Football Field/Track, Gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>Shade Gap Elementary School</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground/equipment, Basketball Court, Ball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon</td>
<td>William Smith Elementary School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, Basketball Court, Grass play area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Portland Avenue Playground</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground equipment constructed from recycled materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huntingdon Senior &amp; Middle School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Gymnasiums, Indoor pool, Tennis Courts, Softball &amp; Football, fields, Cross Country Course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>War Veteran Memorial Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Football Field, Cinder Track, Bleachers, Concession Stand, Field House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allegha Elementary School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground with equipment, Basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>Penn State Recreation Area</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>PSU</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson Miller Elementary School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Ball field, Basketball Court, Playground Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>Brady-Henderson Elementary School</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground with equipment, Basketball Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union</td>
<td>Mount Union High School</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>(2) gymnasiums, Football field/track, Softball &amp; Baseball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mount Union Elementary School</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground with equipment, basketball courts, tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter</td>
<td>J.V. Elementary, Junior, and High Schools</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground Equipment, Basketball Court, Football Field, Gymnasium, Track, Concession Stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill</td>
<td>Rockhill Elementary School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground/equipment, Basketball Courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley</td>
<td>Shirley Elementary School</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground equipment, Basketball court, Field Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>Smithfield Elementary School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground with Equipment, Basketball Courts, Field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd</td>
<td>Trough Creek Elementary School</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, Basketball Court, Field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>Mapleton-Union Elementary School</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, Basketball Court, Field Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>Woodcock Valley Elementary School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground with equipment, Basketball court, Baseball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Elementary School</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground &amp; Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>Robertsdale Elementary School</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground with equipment, Softball, Baseball, Gymnasium for Volleyball &amp; Basketball on Monday's &amp; Saturday's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>998.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department
**Private Recreational Resources** The County has 63 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. See Table 40 on this page and continued on page 74.

### TABLE 40

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Private Recreational Resources</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allenport</td>
<td>Raystown Roller Rink</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Roller Skating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Grier School</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Stables, Riding &amp; Jumping Ring, Trails, Private Gym, Pool, Tennis Courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass</td>
<td>Latta Grove (Barneytown) Comm.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Baseball/Softball field, Basketball court, Playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassville</td>
<td>Cassville Community Center &amp;</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Playground with equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>Calvary Baptist Church Playground</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Picnic tables, Playground/equipment, Baseball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell</td>
<td>Ashwick Campground</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>40 Campsite/facilities, Picnic Pavilion, Field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>Shade Gap Motorcross Course</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Motocross Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>Babyville Softball Field</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Softball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson</td>
<td>Holiday Bowl</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bowling Lanes, Rental and Sales Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunny Ridge Retreat</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Rental property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell</td>
<td>Four Leaf Clover Campground</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45 Seasonal campsites/facilities, Ballfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raystown Lakehouse</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>RV park, tent sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shy Beaver RV Park</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>RV park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Bryan House</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Guest house rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon</td>
<td>Calvary Independent Baptist Church</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Softball Field &amp; Soccer Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huntington Community Center</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>2 Gymnasiums, 1 is leased to the center by the Municipal building, Locker Rooms, Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Juniata Trail Portstown Area</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.5 mile</td>
<td>1/2 mile improved Riverbank trail, Picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juniata College</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>2 Gymnasiums, Tennis Courts, Baseball Field, Library, Children's playground, Art Exhibi Gallery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Track, Football Field, Field space, Basketball Courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Detwiler Memorial Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>Picnic Tables, Horsehoe Pits, Softball field, Soccer Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Social Building, Kids playground area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baker Peace Chapel</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>Cross Country Course, Field Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata</td>
<td>Uncle Joe's Vacation Rental</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vacation rentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ripka's Cottages</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cabin rentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Raystown Family Camping</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Family camping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>Robinson's Hideaway Campground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Camping facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proud Mary</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passenger Excursion Craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raystown Raceway</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Go-Carts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>Mill Creek Lions Park</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Picnic Tables, Baseball Field, Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida</td>
<td>Standing Stone Golf Club</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>18-hole Golf Course, Driving Range, Putting Green, Pool, Club House, Pro Shop, Lounge &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Locker Room, Kid Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stone Valley Lions Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Picnic Tables with shelters, Field Space, Coverted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipalities</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Acreage</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn</td>
<td>Allegheny Campground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Campsites/Facilities, Playground with Equipment, Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heston Speedway</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1/2 Mile track, Grandstand, Concession Stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DAD's Miniature Golf</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Miniature Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boyer's Campground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Camping, Comfort Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Woodland Camping</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Camping, Comfort Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pleasant Hills</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Camping, Comfort Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Cottages</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Air conditioned cabins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lay-Z Pine Lane Cabin</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Secluded cabins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seven Points Vacation Rentals</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Vacation rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seven Points Marina/Cruises</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Houseboat rentals, Marina, Dinner &amp; Sightseeing cruises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jim's Anchorage</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Sales, service, storage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seven Points Ball &amp; Grocery</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Live tackle, bait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raystown Belle &amp; Raystown Queen</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>49-Passenger Excursion Craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter</td>
<td>Lincoln Caverns</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Cave, Tours, Picnic Area, Information &amp; Souvenir Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edgewater Acres</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Horseback riding, Swimming, Golf, Volleyball, Badminton, Basketball Courts, Shuffleboard, Table Games, Dining, Room/Lounge, Sleeping Quarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Berwick Manor</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Guest house rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zebrova Bison Ranch</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Live bison, Indian momentos, tribal activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huntington Horsemen's Grounds</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Stables &amp; Ring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill</td>
<td>East Broad Top Railroad</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Narrow Gauge Railroad, Train, Tracks, Historic Building, Tour, and Visitor Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltillo</td>
<td>Saltillo Community Center</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Basketball court, Playground/equipment, Baseball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jaycee Center</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Gymnasium, Community Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield &amp; Walker Twp.</td>
<td>Huntington Country Club</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>9-Hole Golf course, Swimming Pool, Club House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>Huntington Country Fairgrounds</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Pavilions, Grandstand, Track, Livestock buildings, Comfort,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>V.F.W. Memorial Field</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Horsehoe Pits, Marble Courts, Baseball field, Bleachers, Softball field, Concession stand, Dugouts, Field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd</td>
<td>Lanes Bed &amp; Breakfast</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sleeping accommodations, Picnic Tables, Fishing Pond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lane's Country Homestead</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Guest home rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shady Maple Campground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>40 Sites/Facilities, Picnic Pavilions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>Wood Valley Wrangler Horse Ring</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ring, Bridle Paths, Comfort Facilities, Concession Stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>McConnellsburg Playhouse</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Community Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shenango Field</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Skeet, Trap, Rifle Range, Picnic Tables, Comfort Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Public Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Picnic Tables, Concession Stand, Kitchen, Ball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>Huntington Square Playground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Softball &amp; Soccer Fields</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Miscellaneous Resources (Museums and Historic Sites) Huntingdon County contains four museums that reflect its culture and heritage, and numerous historical sites. Some of these resources are listed in Table 41. Map 36 contains a more complete inventory of these resources. All historic districts, National Historic Landmarks, and National Historic Sites, are identified as part of the Path of Progress and the Heritage Route.

### TABLE 41

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria</td>
<td>Hartsgo Heritage</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Historic Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson</td>
<td>Swigart</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Antique Auto Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Historical Soc.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Museum Building with Exhibits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon</td>
<td>Hunt Tower</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Historic Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union</td>
<td>Sharrar House</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Historic Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Twp.</td>
<td>Brumbaugh Homestead</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Historic Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>Broad Top Coal Miners</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Museum and Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady</td>
<td>1,000 Steps</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Historic Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill</td>
<td>Railways to Yesterday</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Trolley Ride and Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department and Raystown Country

### 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. In 1997 the county Sheriff was contracted to provide service at Raystown Lake. See Table 42.
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 30.

TABLE 43

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRE PROTECTION LISTING</th>
<th>Huntingdon County, 1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department Name</strong></td>
<td><strong>Address</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Volunteer Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 252, Alexandria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Volunteer Fire Dept.</td>
<td>609 Millin St., Huntingdon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Vol. Fire Co./ Hook and Ladder Co.</td>
<td>1301 Washington St., Huntingdon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Depot Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Main St., Mapleton Depot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 405, James Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McConnelltown Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>McConnelltown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>120 S. Division St., Mt. Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Township Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>R.D. #4, Huntingdon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia-Rockhill Vol. Fire Dept.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 186, Orbisonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 68, Petersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robertsdale-Wood-Broad Top City Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 8, Robertsdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Gap Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Shade Gap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shavers Creek Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>R.D., Petersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Firehouse Lane, Huntingdon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Creek Valley Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Petersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Three Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trough Creek Valley Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 22, Cassville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Warriors Mark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning and Development

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 44, on the next page, contains a list of all county ambulance services.
TABLE 44

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Basic Life Support Vehicles</th>
<th>Advanced Life Support Vehicles</th>
<th>Paramedics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robertsdale</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Markdelsburg</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia/Robb</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Valley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Data Book, 1996

911 Services  Huntingdon County submitted a proposal for 911 services in July of 1997 and expects approval by the end of the year. The proposal covers the entire county and will be implemented in the first quarter of 1998 pending approval. Dispatching will be provided by Huntingdon Borough out of the new borough building. Over the next three years the county should have countywide addressing. Payment and equipment costs will be paid by a $1.50 charge to users. For the past ten years Huntingdon Borough has provided dispatch services on a county-wide basis without 911. Each municipality and the county have paid the borough a per capita fee to support the county dispatch.

Libraries  As Table 45 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 Gemmell 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 Beechly 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 45

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Bor.</td>
<td>Alexandria Memorial Public Library</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Local Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Bor.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Library</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>County Library and Meeting Room</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Bor.</td>
<td>Huntingdon Co. Library - Mt. Union Branch</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>County Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia Bor.</td>
<td>Huntingdon Co. Library - Orbisonia Branch</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>County Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning and Development

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 hospital care is provided by the J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital and four medical facilities. In order to gain a better understanding of the perceptions and actions of persons requiring health care, the hospital conducted a study which was completed in August of 1996. The study titled “Community Assessment of Healthcare Needs, Perception and Services” was conducted by Saurage-Thibodeaux Research and serves as a strategic planning and marketing tool for J. C. Blair Memorial. Although much of the document is market driven research and confidential, several useful statistics were uncovered. The majority of statistics discussed here have been taken from Chapter Four - Hospital Utilization Patterns.
Utilization patterns are important from a planning perspective for several reasons. First, they can indicate if residents feel that they 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.

The survey asked the following question regarding hospital utilization: "Have you, any member of your family or a close friend been treated at an area hospital in the last two years? If so, what hospital?"

Two-thirds of all respondents indicated hospital treatment or access in the past two years. As shown in Figure 1, of those who have experienced a hospital visit in the past two years, 61 percent were admitted to J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital, 8 percent each cite Lewistown General Hospital and Altoona General Hospital, and 7 percent visited Centre Community Hospital.

Conclusions

Approximately 70 percent of respondents residing in the core area of J. C. Blair (Huntingdon, PA 16652) and 56 percent of residents in surrounding areas have been admitted to J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital. Lewistown General's former patients are most likely to live in the areas surrounding Huntingdon Borough.

Patients of Altoona General Hospital and Centre Community Hospital tend to live in the core area and the northwestern part of the county, while Lewistown General Hospital’s patients are likely to reside in areas east and southeast of Huntingdon.

The data shows that almost 40 percent of county residents chose hospitals or health care services outside of the county because of the location of the hospital nearest to their home. Location and doctor preference are most influential in potentially selecting a hospital.

The results show that people consider the location of the nearest health facility when living in an area. Huntingdon County’s health care facilities are distributed county-wide, leaving gaps in service along the borders of the county. See Map 31.

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.
6. **Office of Veterans' Affairs** - Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Assists veterans and their dependents or survivors in applying for hospitalization benefits for which they are entitled.

7. **State Health Center** - 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.

Please refer to Map 31 for the locations of these health facilities.

**Nursing Homes**
1. **Huntingdon Manor Nursing Home** - A private facility adjacent, but unrelated, to J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, PA 16652. This facility was formerly the Huntingdon County Nursing Home. In the late 1980s the Board of Commissioners privatized this facility which now contains 93 beds.

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

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


**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. **Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development, Inc.** - 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. **Early Childhood Education Center** - 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. **Jack and Jill Nursery School** - 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. **Alexandria Senior Center** - 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.

3. **The Orbisonia Senior Center** - Located in the old Orbisonia High School gymnasium in Orbisonia, the last remaining part of the high school structure left standing, since 1985. The building is leased from George Hahn. The square footage of the building is approximately 1,000 square feet. The senior center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM. A noon meal is served daily. It is estimated that this center will serve 75 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. 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.

**State Government Agencies**

**Pennsylvania Government Office Locations in Huntingdon County:**

1. **Department of Corrections** - State Correctional Institution at Smithfield located at 1120 Pike, Huntingdon.
2. **Game Commission - Division Offices**
   a. Central Huntingdon County, Route 22, Huntingdon.
   b. Southcentral Regional Office, Huntingdon.
   c. Northern Huntingdon County, Alexandria.
3. **Department of Health** - State Health Center located at 900 Moore Avenue, Huntingdon.
4. **Department of Labor and Industry - Job Center, Unemployment Compensation Claims**
   b. Driver License Center located on Route 22, Huntingdon.
   c. Driver’s License Examination located at R.D. #1, Huntingdon.

**Public Buildings and Facilities**

**County Courthouse** There have been three courthouses in the history of Huntingdon County; the first was located at the site of the present Standing Stone, the second was built at the site of the present courthouse in the 200 block of Penn Street in Huntingdon. The second courthouse was destroyed by fire and was replaced in 1883 by the present building. The courthouse is of stone and brick construction with much wood framing on the interior.

**Additional County Owned Facilities**

1. **County Jail** at 300 Church Street.
2. **District Justice** at 241 Mifflin Street.
3. **Raystown Visitors Bureau, Sheriff's Department, and HCB&I** at 241 Mifflin Street.
4. **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. The Home was formerly known as the Huntingdon County Home. The structure is about 150 years old.
5. **Children Services** at 205 Penn Street.
Leased Facilities
1. County Planning and Development at 208 Penn Street.
2. Domestic Relations at 233 Penn Street.

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 supply permits 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 46 with information on their facilities.

There are twenty-two water authorities, companies, or other municipally operated public water organizations in the county, covering twenty-three municipalities, the State Correctional Institution, Raystown Lake, and two state parks. See Map 32 for the locations of all public water facilities.

Water Service Operational Details
The following table provides information regarding the operating firm or personnel for each of the public sewer providers in Huntingdon County. See Table 49.

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 nineteen sanitary sewer authorities, companies, departments or other municipally operated public sewer organizations in the county providing public sewer and waste water collection to approximately twenty-five municipalities, The State Correctional Institution, Raystown Lake, and two state parks. Currently, there are three proposed sewer systems: Cassville, Dudley- Barnettstown, and the Wood, Broad Top, Wells Joint Municipal Authority. See Table 47.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Wastewater By</th>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Total Address</th>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Type Sysfer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Water Auth.</td>
<td>Alexandria Inc.</td>
<td>Alexandria Bar &amp; Water Auth.</td>
<td>Alexandria Bar &amp; parts of Pwnto</td>
<td>5 full-time</td>
<td>730,000.00</td>
<td>Surface Reservoir</td>
<td>Iron Removal</td>
<td>gravity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Bar. Water Auth.</td>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Broad Top Bar &amp; Water Auth.</td>
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<td>3 Wells</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherrytown Water Company</td>
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<td>Privat Ownership</td>
<td>Cherrytown Village</td>
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<td>Chlorination</td>
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<td>full-time</td>
<td>730,000.00</td>
<td>Wells</td>
<td>Chlorination</td>
<td>gravity</td>
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Source: Houghton Valley Planning Department

85
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Borough Water Authority</td>
<td>86,000 gpd</td>
<td>115,000 gpd</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>min. $24.25/1st 1000 $2.50/1000 gal after</td>
<td>Reservoir - 3.5 mg. Tank 319,000 gal.</td>
<td>yes, in past</td>
<td>yes, filtration by 1995</td>
<td>not given</td>
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<td>Broad Top City Borough Water Authority</td>
<td>55,000 gpd</td>
<td>50,000 gpd</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$18.00 per 4,000 gallons</td>
<td>tank - 120,000 gal</td>
<td>yes, in past</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>to 'loop' system, return water tank</td>
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<td>Cherrytown Water Company</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>none</td>
<td>Reservoir - 10,000 gallon</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>yes 1993</td>
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<td>Dudley, Carbon, (Coalmont) Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>40,000 gpd</td>
<td>50,000 gpd</td>
<td>128</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>$25.00 per 6,000 gal.</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>yes 1993</td>
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<td>3,414 gpd</td>
<td>4,365 gpd</td>
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<td>campground</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>114,600, underground water tank</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>yes, 1969</td>
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<td>Huntingdon Water Filtration Plant</td>
<td>1.5 million gp</td>
<td>4.0 million gp</td>
<td>2490</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>min. $10.00 plus $1.30/1000 gal</td>
<td>Reservoir 134,000 gal &amp; 160,000 ga</td>
<td>yes, in past</td>
<td>yes, compliance filtration rule 1996</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>yes 1989</td>
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<td>30,000 gpd</td>
<td>40,000 gpd</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>5 to 10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$16.00 base rate/$2.00 ca. 1,000 gal used</td>
<td>Reservoir 134,000 gal &amp; 160,000 ga</td>
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<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
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<td>Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority</td>
<td>50,000 gpd</td>
<td>120,000 gpd</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>$20.00/2,000 gallon</td>
<td>Reservoir 134,000 gal &amp; 160,000 ga</td>
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<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>60,000,000</td>
<td>75,000,000</td>
<td>1838</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$7.00 + $2.83/1,000 gal</td>
<td>Tanks</td>
<td>yes since 9/6/91</td>
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<td>Neelyton Water Co-Op</td>
<td>5,600 gpd</td>
<td>6,800 gpd</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Orbisonia/Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>135,000 gpd</td>
<td>146,000 gpd</td>
<td>390</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>Petersburg Borough Authority</td>
<td>54,536 gpd</td>
<td>72,000 gpd</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$25.00 first 2,000 gal. = 205,000 gal.</td>
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<td>yes 1995</td>
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<td>Rothrock Water Treatment Plant</td>
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<td>360,000 gpd</td>
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<td>Campground/Restaurant</td>
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<td>Saltillo Water Company</td>
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<td>$13.00</td>
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<td>Seven Points Water Treatment Plant</td>
<td>13,000 gpd</td>
<td>72,000 gpd</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Restaurant/Man</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>not given, if any</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
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<td>Sherrillsburg Municipal Authority</td>
<td>7,000 gpd</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>State Correctional Institution Huntingdon</td>
<td>500,000 gpd</td>
<td>650,000 gpd</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2500 - Group Quartered</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Reservoir - 75,000 gal 2: 25,000 gal</td>
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<td>Trouth Creek State Park</td>
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Source: Hunting County Planning Department
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Authority</th>
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<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Indebtedness</th>
<th>Treatment Plant Loc.</th>
<th>Type of Treatment</th>
<th>Sludge Disposal</th>
<th>Receiving Stream</th>
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<td>Borough</td>
<td>Activated Sludge</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>Shoup Run</td>
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<td>Greenwood Furnace State Park</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>within Park Boundary</td>
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<td>none</td>
<td>Lower end of camping area</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>East Branch Standing Stone Creek</td>
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<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Heasran &amp; N.E. Extension</td>
<td>Heasran Borough</td>
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<td>$308,000</td>
<td>Heasran Village</td>
<td>Sub-Service Sand Mound System</td>
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<td>Huntington Area Water &amp; Sewer Authority</td>
<td>Huntington Borough &amp; parts Smithfield, Walkers, Onoeda Twp.</td>
<td>7 g f, 6 full t</td>
<td>21 full t/1 part t</td>
<td>$257,04</td>
<td>Seylers Run Road</td>
<td>Primary/Secondary</td>
<td>Landfill/Agricultural</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
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<td>bagging</td>
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<td>13 full time/1/7</td>
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<td>N. Drake Street</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
<td>R.C. landfill</td>
<td>Juniata River</td>
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<td>Township</td>
<td>Onseta Township</td>
<td>Petersburg Falls, Cold Springs Rd. to Schoolhouse, Rt. 26 - Oseta Terrace &amp; Huybord Subdiv</td>
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<td>Cromwell Twp. Rt. 722</td>
<td>Contact Stabilization</td>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Black Log Creek</td>
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<td>1 full t/2 part t</td>
<td>$167,110</td>
<td>Rt 950, Petersburg</td>
<td>Aeration</td>
<td>Agricultural Application</td>
<td>Shavers Creek</td>
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<td>US Army Corps of Engineers</td>
<td>USACE</td>
<td>Lake Raystown Reserve</td>
<td>full-time; 1/7</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Lake Raystown Resort</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
<td>Contractor</td>
<td>Raystown Lake</td>
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<td>US Army Corps of Engineers</td>
<td>USACE</td>
<td>Seven Points Recreation Area, Raystown Lake</td>
<td>full-time; 1/7</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Raystown Lake</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
<td>Contractor</td>
<td>Raystown Lake</td>
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<td>Shale Gap Borough &amp; parts of Dubois Twp.</td>
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<td>Mount Union</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
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<td>DRE - State Parks</td>
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<td>parts of Walker Township</td>
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<td>Careville Borough</td>
<td>Estimation</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
<td>Northern end of town</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
<td>Shoup Run</td>
<td>Unnamed trib. of Raystown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Dudley-Barntettown</td>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Dudley, Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>Dudley, Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>Middletown-Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>Shoup Run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Marklesburg Borough</td>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Marklesburg Borough</td>
<td>Marklesburg Borough</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Aitch Road</td>
<td>Extended Aeration</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>Unnamed trib. of Raystown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Wood, Broad Top, Wells Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Wood, Broad Top, Wells, J M</td>
<td>Wood &amp; Robertsdale Villages</td>
<td>1 full time</td>
<td>$390,000</td>
<td>Wood &amp; Robertsdale Villages</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>not given</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntington County Planning Department
**Sewer Service Usage, Plans, and Studies** The following table provides information regarding the future plans, service usage, and completed studies community sewer providers. See Table 49.

### TABLE 49

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Monthly Fees</th>
<th>Res Cust</th>
<th>Non-Res Cust</th>
<th>Customers, Indust or Commercial</th>
<th>v Daily Flow</th>
<th>ax Daily Flow</th>
<th>Stormwater System</th>
<th>ct 537 Plan</th>
<th>Future Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Borough - Porter Twp. Joint Sew Auth.</td>
<td>$42.00</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>198,000 gpd</td>
<td>240,000 gpd</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Waste Water Treatment Plant</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40,000 gpd</td>
<td>65,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given, if any</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood Furnace State Park</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>4,000 gpd</td>
<td>10,000 gpd</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Extend sewer lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hesston, N.E. Extension</td>
<td>$39.50</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,000 gpd</td>
<td>15,000 gpd</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Waste Water Treatment Facility</td>
<td>min $4.60</td>
<td>2486</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,400,000 gpd</td>
<td>3,750,000 gpd</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>1985 amendment 1994</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Area Wastewater Treatment Facility</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>3 schools</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough Sewer</td>
<td>$5.70 per</td>
<td>1180</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>550,000 gpd</td>
<td>625,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>major expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Twp. Waste Water Collection System</td>
<td>$36.70</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40,000 gpd</td>
<td>100,000 gpd</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>183 mgd</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg Sewer Department</td>
<td>$26.00 per</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18,000 gpd</td>
<td>100,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given, if any</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothrock Sewage Treatment Plant</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Campground</td>
<td></td>
<td>80,000 gpd</td>
<td>100,000 gpd</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven Points Recreation Area Sewer Treatment Plant</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Marina, Re</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,200 gpd</td>
<td>150,000 gpd</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Gap Area Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>8 - 140 Eq</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30,000 gpd</td>
<td>65,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Township Authority</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>105,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Draft Plan submitted 11/96</td>
<td>Extension of sewer to Riverview Business Cent and South on US 522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Creek Joint Sewer Authority</td>
<td>$31.00</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>63,000 gpd</td>
<td>110,000 gpd</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouough Creek State Park</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>sand mound by new park office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Twp. Waste Water Collection System</td>
<td>$25.40</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10,000 gpd</td>
<td>35,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given, if any</td>
<td>not yet</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Cassville Water &amp; Sewer Authority</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>93 total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,000 ga</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes/approve 12/7/94</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Dudley-Barnettstown</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>105,000 gpd</td>
<td>147,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Marklesburg Borough</td>
<td>Estimated</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>not known yet</td>
<td>35,000 gpd</td>
<td>not given, if any</td>
<td>not yet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Proposed) Wood, Broad Top, Wells Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department
Refuse

In conformance with the plan, a landfill was constructed in 1990 by the Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon Solid Waste Authority to provide for the safe disposal of solid waste. This landfill is located in Broad Top Township, Bedford County, approximately five miles east of Hopewell. Previous to the construction of this landfill, waste was disposed of at privately owned landfills. The plan requires that all waste generated within the three counties be disposed at this landfill. Recent litigation at the federal level has called into question the ability of local government to exclusively direct waste to this facility.

The landfill is double-lined with treatment of leachate provided for on-site. The landfill site also houses a recycling facility which serves the area. The landfill was constructed to ultimately contain approximately 1.6 million tons of waste and was projected to serve the area for thirty years. In 1996 the landfill accepted 39,707 tons of waste, far less than its designed capacity of 54,600 to 71,000 tons per year. Huntingdon County supplied 19,818 tons, or 50 percent, of this total in 1996. Tipping fees at the landfill are $44/ton for both municipal and demolition waste. Volume customers can have the tip fee for demolition waste reduced to $37.50 per ton. In an effort to increase use at the landfill, tip fees for Blair County customers have been reduced to $35/ton for all waste.

In late 1995 the Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon Solid Waste Authority, was dissolved. The Boards of Commissioners of the three counties now operate the landfill directly under a joinder agreement. The new agency is known as the South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency. Due to concern over potential financial liabilities at the landfill, the South Central Counties Agency is considering “privatizing” the landfill by selling it.

The collection and transportation of solid waste in the county is handled privately. There are approximately ten private waste haulers serving Huntingdon County (see Table 50).

| TABLE 50 |
|LICENSED HAULERS AND WASTE TRANSPORT FIRMS |
|Huntingdon County and Region, 1997 |
|Municipal Location | Firm |
|Altoona         | Horvath Sanitation |
|Cassville       | R.I. Frederick |
|McVeytown       | Worthy’s Refuse Service |
|Mount Union     | Park’s Garbage Service |
|Mount Union     | Quarry Sanitation |
|Orbisonia       | Carper’s General Hauling |
|Petersburg      | Bousum’s Sanitation |
|Saxton          | Snyder’s Sanitation |
|Scotland        | R.A. Bender, Inc. |
|Three Springs   | Slates Brothers Hauling |

Source: Huntingdon County Recycling Department

Recycling
Local recycling is required by Act 101. The state has set a goal of recycling 25 percent of the east stream by 1997. As part of its state-mandated solid waste management plan, Huntingdon County is committed to reducing its municipal solid waste flow through the promotion of recycling. According to the annual report filed by Huntingdon County, a total of 5,756 tons of materials were recycled in 1996. This is 14 percent of the total waste collected in the county. These materials came from several sources: a county-wide drop-off recycling program, curbside collection, private recyclers, and scrap dealers.

The South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency contracts with Total Recycling of Boswell, Pennsylvania for operation of a drop-off type recycling program in Huntingdon, as well as in Bedford and Fulton Counties. In the county, this program was responsible for recycling 324 tons of materials. These materials included newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, and clear, brown and green glass. There are currently nine drop-off containers in the county (see Table 51).

Huntingdon Borough is the only county municipality large enough to be required by state law to have a curbside recycling program. Borough residents can place aluminum cans, clear glass bottles and jars, newspapers, and plastic beverage bottles and jugs, outside their homes in specially-made containers for bi-weekly pickup. The service is subsidized through a $2.50 fee added monthly to sewer and water bills.
Businesses in Huntingdon Borough are required to privately hire a recycling company to collect recyclables. Each business is required to collect three items for recycling, such as office paper, aluminum cans, corrugated cardboard, or glass. Businesses are required to supply biannual reports to the borough, stating the types and quantities of items collected. J.J. Recycling, which has the contract for the borough’s curbside program, contracts with commercial customers and maintains records for those customers.

Alexandria Borough also has a curbside pickup of recyclables, although the program is a voluntary one operated by the Alexandria Lions Club. On the first Saturday of each month, the Lions pick up steel and aluminum cans, and clear, brown, and green glass.

Many other municipalities are co-sponsors of centralized recycling programs. These municipalities, in cooperation with the South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency and Huntingdon County, are hosts to large drop-off recycling containers. These containers have bins for aluminum and steel cans, newspapers, and clear, brown, and green glass jars and bottles. Anyone can deposit recyclables into these containers without charge, whether or not they are residents of the host municipality. The recyclables are then collected by the solid waste authority for sorting and sale.

The following municipalities have drop-off containers (Table 51):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 51</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RECYCLING DROP-OFF CONTAINERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon County, 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Borough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Borough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Borough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherrill Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: Huntingdon County Recycling Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Utilities
Public utilities contribute substantially to the livability of a community. They include private companies, regulated by the government, that supply gas, cable, phone, and electric services to municipal residents and businesses.

Natural Gas
There is only one provider of on-line natural gas service in Huntingdon County, and that service is limited to the general areas of US Route 22 and northern Route 522, including Mount Union, Allenport (Shirley Township), Mapleton, Mill Creek, Smithfield, and Huntingdon Borough (including all three industrial and business parks).

1. South Penn Gas Company is located at 614 - 6th Street, Huntingdon. South Penn receives natural gas from Texas Eastern, which maintains a main transmission line through Huntingdon County. South Penn has recently made major investments in new underground lines that increase the capacity of the service by 30 percent over existing use. Availability of gas supplies is excellent within these limited service areas. Natural gas is sold under the step-rate tariff system in increments of “therms” (100,000 BTUs). South Penn also provides transportation service for natural gas that large-volume users have purchased elsewhere.

Cable Television
Many cable services operate within the county. The two largest are Huntington TV Cable Company, which serves approximately 6,900 customers in Huntingdon, Marklesburg, Petersburg, Alexandria, and Saxton, and TCL of Mount Union which has approximately 2,500 customers. At least two cable providers, those in Orbisonia and Saltillo, are small community-owned operations.

Cable One, an advertising company located in Williamsport can create and insert commercials for local companies into certain cable channels, such as CNN and ESPN. Huntington TV Cable Company provides bulletin-board style advertisements on its two public access channels. These advertisements can utilize words, photographs and still graphics. Huntington TV Cable Company also produces its own original broadcasts such as “spotlight” and the popular PRIDE telethon. Also, the company has installed (in 1995) fiber optic transmission lines throughout most of the territory.

Telecommunications
Most of Huntingdon County is within the “814” area code service area and is served by three line companies - Bell of Pennsylvania, Sprint/United Telephone Company, and ALLTEL of Pennsylvania. (Which now owns Huntingdon and Centre County Telephone). A small part of Brady Township is in the 717 area.
All major long-distance companies also service Huntingdon County (Western Union, MCI, Sprint, AT&T, etc.), and there are a growing variety of smaller long distance providers available locally.

1. **Bell of Pennsylvania** has recently installed a Centrex switching system into the Huntingdon host station and now offers the most sophisticated line services in the county, within their total county service area. Features include call forwarding, call waiting, system speed dialing, add-on conference, etc., through normal telephone equipment. In addition, Bell of PA also has high grade circuits (1.54 megabit) capable of handling data transmission speeds. Fiber optic trunk lines are widespread throughout the county (in the major Bell of PA service territory) and fiber optic branch cables are routinely found in the major commercial and industrial centers, including all three industrial parks.

2. **Sprint/United Telephone** lines in McConnellstown, Marklesburg, and Three Springs are served by digital switching equipment which provides customers with a variety of custom calling features. Although the Orbisonia and Shade Gap exchanges are not yet equipped with digital switching they, along with Three Springs, are served by a fiber optic network system. The Orbisonia and Shade Gap systems are scheduled to receive digital switching conversions in the next few years.

3. **ALLTEL** also offers reasonably sophisticated services and is installing high grade circuitry for its customers' data transmission needs. Call holding, speed dialing, conference calling, etc. are offered; however, these must be functions of the internal phone system, since they are not part of the central switching equipment.

**Electric System**

There are two electric service providers who serve all of Huntingdon County: the Pennsylvania Electric Company (Penelec, now General Public Utilities (GPU), New Enterprises Cooperative) and the Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. Until recent legislative changes occurred, customers were unable to choose their electric service provider; customers were served by the firm with the nearest existing lines. Since both firms purchase power from the same power generation "grid", there is no difference in the quality or quantity of power available. The only true difference between the firms is the related services available, and to a lesser degree, price.

GPU serves over 12,500 customers in Huntingdon County, and generally tends to serve the more densely populated areas of the county. Each service hookup is one customer regardless of how many live in or use the facility. Consequently, GPU generally tends to serve the boroughs and villages in the densely populated center of the county. GPU also serves 31 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. GPU has a wide range of services and ranges of power use, each with their own rate structure. Off peak service charges for heavy power use customers can be as low as $.02244 per kilowatt hour, but the average residential rate is $.068741 per kilowatt hour (plus a monthly charge of $6.73 for the service). GPU operates a maintenance and customer service office in the Huntingdon Industrial Park.

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative is a part of the state's vast member-owned Rural Electric Cooperatives and serves over 9,120 customers in Huntingdon County, of which 76 percent are rural residential customers. A member-owned supplier, rates average $.089 per kilowatt hour for all residential and small commercial customers. Large commercial rates are as low as $.047 per kilowatt hour. Valley Rural tends to serve the growing rural marketplace, often located in the townships surrounding the more densely settled boroughs. Valley Rural Electric Cooperative is headquartered near Huntingdon and has district offices in Shade Gap, Martinsburg, and Hustontown. The cooperative has 74 employees.

The county business parks, which are located on the periphery of the borough limits, are served by both Penelec and Valley Rural.

There are two power generation facilities in the county. Both are "run-of-river" hydroelectric facility. The facility at Raystown Dam is owned and operated by Allegheny Electric Cooperative (the generation and transmission company of the rural electric cooperatives). The 21-megawatt plant produces enough electricity for 8,500 homes. At present, the plant employs one part-time and three full-time workers. The facility at Warriors Ridge Dam is owned by American Hydrapower of Philadelphia and is rated at 16 megawatts.
Transportation

Historic Development of Transportation Infrastructure
Highways
Airports
Railroads
Public Transportation
Transportation Study Description
TRANSPORTATION STUDY

The history and development of Huntingdon County have been closely linked with transportation. Transportation will continue to shape the growth and development of the county in the future. The "Huntingdon County Transportation Study" was developed in 1997 to analyze existing transportation facilities and to determine areas needing improvement. The study was developed in cooperation with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission for Huntingdon, Bedford, Fulton, and Somerset Counties. The study uses transportation data from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and geographic information systems technology to develop this analysis.

Transportation Study Description
The Transportation Study is subdivided into five distinct sections describing the existing infrastructure:

1. All state, county, and local roadways and bridges;
2. Transportation operations;
3. The intermodal transportation system;
4. External characteristics affecting transportation patterns, and
5. Identification of specific transportation infrastructure deficiencies.

The existing highway and roadway network is described by functional classification, pavement type, travel lane width, and ownership. Additional data identifies roadway condition and projects currently contained within the state's 12-Year Plan/State Transportation Improvement Program. The existing bridge system defines ownership by state, county, local, or other jurisdictions, geographic location, posted/closed status, weight limitations, and the bridge's sufficiency rating.

Transportation system operations are defined by annual average daily traffic (AADT), level of service, and location, and number and severity of accidents recorded within the county.

The intermodal transportation system section includes freight and passenger rail facilities within the county, rural public transportation providers, air facilities, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and truck transfer/distribution centers.

External characteristics affecting transportation patterns include an analysis of land use patterns, environmental features, population and housing data for the years 1970, 1980, and 1990, median income and population density. Population and housing projections are also provided in five-year increments to 2015.

Transportation infrastructure deficiencies are identified based upon evaluation criteria ranking roadway segments by AADT, travel lane width, the International Roughness Index for pavement surfaces, number of accidents, and National Highway System. Deficiencies in bridge structures are ranked using the bridge sufficiency rating, number of accidents, posted weight limitations, and National Highway System. Short-term (12-Years) and Long-term (20 Years) ranking are provided for all identified deficiencies in the roadway network.

Much of the following information has been taken from this study. Additional information concerning the county's transportation infrastructure may be found in the complete report, Huntingdon County Transportation Study.

Historic Development of Transportation Infrastructure
Early settlers followed the Juniata River Valley into central Pennsylvania, often using Indian paths. During the eighteenth century, travel consisted of walking or traveling on horseback along these trails. The Juniata River was also used to move lumber or other cargo downstream on flat boats. The first roads come to the Huntingdon area in 1819 with the construction of the Huntingdon, Cambria, and Indiana Turnpike along the routes of present U.S. 22 and U.S. 422.

Development of the Pennsylvania Main Line Canal in 1831 brought considerable development to the Juniata Valley. The construction of railroads through Huntingdon County provided a major spur to growth and development. Major railroad lines included the Pennsylvania Railroad Main Line (1850), Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad (1857) and the East Broad Top Railroad 1874. Many other logging railroads were built and quickly abandoned after their initial mission was completed. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Huntingdon County was on one of the main commercial routes in the United States, the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Huntingdon County entered the automobile era with the construction of the "Pinchot" roads in the 1920s. Governor Gifford Pinchot initiated an ambitious program of paving rural roads throughout the state. It was during the late 20s that present U.S. Route 22 was designated, as a U.S. Highway along with other routes of national importance. County highways were modernized with the reconstruction of U.S. 22 in the late 1940s and the construction of the Pennsylvania Turnpike in 1948. During the 1960s and 1970s the National Defense Highway System, or Interstate System, was built. The Pennsylvania Turnpike became Interstate 76 and Interstate 80 was built across the northern part of the state. While the county benefits from the national system of limited access highways, the system largely bypassed the county.
Travel by airplane has not been a major element in the county’s transportation infrastructure. The county has a number of small grass landing strips but has never had scheduled passenger service. During the twentieth century, a number of major pipelines were built across the county to carry petroleum products and natural gas. Of these, the Texas Eastern Pipeline provides direct service to county residents.

**Highways**
Huntingdon County is served by 630 miles of state-maintained highways (Map 33). These roads include, but are not limited to: I-76, U.S. 22, U.S. 522, PA 26, PA 35, PA 45, PA 453, PA 641, PA 655, PA 747, and PA 829. Of these roads, I-76, U.S. 22 and U.S. 522 have been named part of the National Highway System by the U.S. Congress. This designation qualifies these roads for various forms of federal aid.

U.S. 22 is the primary highway in the county, carrying east-west traffic from Harrisburg to Altoona and Pittsburgh. The average daily traffic (ADT) on U.S. 22 is over 10,000 for most of its length. The major north-south highways are U.S. 522 and PA 26. U.S. 522 connects to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and to Lewistown and carries between 2,500 and 5,000 vehicles per day. PA 26 serves the recreational corridor along the west side of Raystown Lake. PA 26 also connects to U.S. 30 at Everett and U.S. 322 at State College. The ADT on PA 26 ranges from 2,500 to nearly 10,000.

Local roads and bridges also form an important part of the county’s transportation infrastructure. These miles of roads are maintained by the eighteen boroughs and thirty townships.

**Functional Classification of Highway/Road**
The functional class of state roads, is established in the PennDOT Highway Design Manual. The classification system is divided into two parts: Urban Area Systems and Rural Area Systems. Each of these systems which are shown on Map 33A is further divided into four roadway classes. These classes are:

- **Freeways** - are fully controlled access highways with no at-grade intersections or driveway connections. Freeways are arterials that do not have standard intersections requiring traffic control devices such as stop signs or traffic signals.

- **Arterials** - carry long-distance major traffic flows between major activity centers such as towns and large shopping/employment centers. Arterials allow travel between regions and therefore form the “backbone” of a roadway network. This class of road is designed to carry large volumes of traffic as efficiently as possible. Arterials can be further broken down into Principal and Minor arterials.

- **Collectors** - link local streets with the arterial street system. Collectors do what their name implies. They “collect” traffic from local roads and streets. Often the only difference between collectors and local roads in rural areas is the volume of traffic on the roads. Collectors can be divided further into Major and Minor Collectors.

- **Local Roads** - serve shorter local trips. Local roads primarily function to provide access to abutting land uses. These roads generally have low speed limits and low traffic volumes.

**Airports**
Huntingdon County Airport is the only public-use, yet privately owned, airport in Huntingdon County. The airport is situated in the Aughwick Creek Valley, adjacent to U.S. 522 and approximately 5 miles south of the borough of Mount Union. The location of this facility is shown in Exhibit 28. The facility has a 3,120 foot gravel runway with low edge intensity lighting that can support aircraft weighing less than 12,500 pounds. Airside amenities include fuel and tie-down storage for fixed-wing aircraft. Landside services include charter, instruction, and rental opportunities.

**Railroads**
Passenger rail service is available at the Amtrak station in Huntingdon at 402 Allegheny Street. Service is provided on a daily basis to Harrisburg, Lewistown, Tyrone, Altoona, and Johnstown with connections to Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and New York City. This service is supplied by Amtrak and travels over Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail) track.

The availability of freight rail service in Huntingdon County is limited, as shown on Exhibit 30. Traversing the county from east to west, freight rail service passes through Mount Union along the Juniata River, intersects Mapleton, Huntingdon, Spruce Creek, and Birmingham, and continues westward to Tyrone in Blair County. This freight service is supplied by Conrail for customers throughout the corridor.

The East Broad Top Railroad operates as a tourist passenger railroad out of Rockhill. The EBT also has many miles of inactive freight rail trackage within the county. Beginning near the intersection of U.S. Routes 22 and 522 in Mount Union, this inactive rail line heads southward along U.S. Route 522 passing Shirleysburg and Rockhill. Turning southwest, this segment continues along the PA 994 corridor to Three Springs. From this point, the segment heads to Saltillo and heads southwest to Robertsdale. There is a potential for extending rail freight service along the EBT to the new Riverside Business Center south of Mount Union.
Public Transportation
Rural transit service is provided by the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging. The service is provided primarily to Huntingdon, Bedford and Fulton Counties with secondary service to medical facilities throughout Pennsylvania and parts of Maryland and West Virginia. The service operates from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday with no holiday service. Reservations for the service must be made 24 hours in advance for access and the service is based on a demand response system. The majority of ridership is persons 65 years of age and older. In 1995 ridership for this service was approximately 115,000 patrons. The service is funded by various sources including Shared-ride program, Act 26, Human Services Development Fund, AAA, Medical Assistance, Program Income and county cash.
Heritage and Cultural Resources

Introduction
Historic Resources Pros
Historic Resources Cons
HERITAGE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Introduction
Huntingdon County has a wealth of historic resources. The county’s history has shaped its land and its people and this history has in turn been shaped by the natural environment. A complete history of the county can be found in Appendix D.

In 1996 the county completed the “Huntingdon County Heritage Plan” to guide the preservation, interpretation and development of heritage sites throughout the county. The plan seeks not only to preserve historic resources, but to develop them as visitor attractions and as living parts of the county’s communities. The 1996 plan was an update of an earlier 1990 Heritage Plan.

The planning effort began by surveying community leaders and meeting with the public to define important heritage resources. The survey identified the top six county sites that should be preserved. These sites are listed in Table 52. According to the survey, the most important historic themes in Huntingdon County history, in priority order are: Railroad, Canal, Paths and Highways, Native Americans, Iron, Agriculture, Coal, Logging, Ethnic Diversity, and Limestone.

Hundreds of sites and structures in the county are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The county has two National Register Historic Landmarks, seven Historic Districts and thirty-one National Register Historic Sites. These resources are shown on the Historic Resources Map 34.

In 1987 the Huntingdon County Commissioners created the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee to coordinate heritage preservation and development efforts. The staff of the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department have provided support for the committee. The heritage committee works with regional organizations, such as the Allegheny Heritage Development Corporation, and with local organizations, such as the Raystown County Visitors Bureau and local historical societies, to implement the Heritage Plan.

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Company Square, Robertsdale</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Greenwood Furnace State Park</td>
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</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Heritage Plan, 1996.

Huntingdon County has a variety of excellent heritage resources on which to base heritage development. However, the feasibility of heritage development is affected by many factors other than the presence of historic resources. These factors include location and geography, natural resources and physiography, economic base, financial resources, local leadership, and institutional factors. Following is an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the county for the development of cultural resources.

Historic Resources Pros:
- The East Broad Top Railroad is the most complete example of a regional narrow gauge railroad east of the Mississippi River.
- Greenwood Furnace State Park is the only place within the Path of Progress Region where the charcoal iron industry is being interpreted.
- The Sheep Rock Shelter archaeological site is one of the most important archeological sites in Pennsylvania and has been well documented.
- Huntingdon County has two National Historic Landmarks, seven National Register Historic Districts, and thirty-one National Register Sites.
- Huntingdon County has an abundance of written histories, an historic site survey, and other heritage publications.
- The abundance of public lands protects some historic sites and provides a tourist attraction.
- Potential historic districts have been identified in a number of communities: Alexandria, Petersburg, McAlevy’s Fort, McConnellstown, Orbisonia, Rockhill, Salttilo, Shirleysburg, Spruce Creek, and Three Springs.
- There is a considerable interest in historic preservation and heritage among local organizations.
- Heritage sites which are currently "visitor ready" include: East Broad Top Railroad, Pulpit Rocks, Greenwood Furnace State Park and Historic District, Huntingdon Historic

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District, Mount Union Historic District, Alexandria Historic District, Robertsdale Historic District, Rockhill Trolley Museum and Paradise Furnace at Trough Creek State Park.

**Historic Resources Cons:**

- Many of the county's historic sites are privately owned, and their preservation is dependent upon the owner's sensitivity to its history.
- The oral history of the county is being lost as many of the older generation are passing on without recording their stories.
- There is a perception among many in the community that our heritage is not worthy of saving or promoting to tourists.
- The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for preservation are not widely known and/or are not followed by local developers and contractors.
- Historic sites and districts are not protected by local ordinances.
- Development of visitor services is hindered by the lack of public utilities and various topographic features.
- 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.
Summary of Findings

- Introduction
- Land Use
- Environmental Conservation
- Housing
- Population and Demographics
- Economy
- Infrastructure and Community Facilities
- Transportation
- Historical and Cultural Resources
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Introduction
This section summarizes the Background Studies, Phase I, of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan: Continuity Through Conservation II. Highlighted below are the primary main conclusions derived from local knowledge and resources, as well as statistical analysis. In developing and summarizing the many possible conclusions several resources were used: Richard Stahl and the staff of the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department, the consultants, and the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee. On August 20, 1997 these parties participated in a brainstorming session to create a list of main conclusions from the background studies. Those statements were analyzed and revised as required. Additional thoughts were then discussed among the planning consultants and Planning Director. The result is a brief portrayal of conditions in Huntingdon County.

Land Use
a. 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.

b. Like other rural areas, only a small percentage of the county's total land area is developed (3.45% not including agriculture).

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

d. Approximately 24% of the county is state or federally owned: State Gamelands, State Forest, State Parks, Raystown Lake Project.

e. For most of the past 20 years the trend has been toward low density development (2 du/acre to 2 acres/du), with nearly 13 square miles of the county subdivided into lots for development.

f. The predominant land use is forest at 71%.

g. Agriculture constitutes 22% of the county's land area, a figure which has remained fairly constant over the past decade.

Environmental Conservation
a. A large percentage of the county is environmentally sensitive by virtue of steep slope and floodplain areas (46.4%).

b. The large forested acreage of the county, 71%) provides excellent watershed protection as well as habitat for wildlife.

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

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

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

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

Housing
a. The county contains relatively few rental or multifamily dwelling units.

b. Both rental and multifamily housing is highly concentrated in Huntingdon and Mount Union.

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

d. The county has a high percentage of seasonal housing (12.8%) compared with the state (2.9%).

e. Manufactured housing (mobile homes) makes up a higher percentage of the housing stock than in the state (14.8% compared with 5.2%).

f. The county has a high percentage of owner-occupied housing (76.3% compared with 70.6%) when compared to the state.

G. The top ten growth municipalities from 1980 to 1990 in terms of housing growth were: Baree (47.3%), Morris (28.2%), Cass (23.7%), Cromwell (23.2%), Walker (19.8%), Miller (18.8%), Jackson (18.0%), Porter (17.8%), Logan (17.3%) and Henderson (16.2%) Townships.
Population/Demographics
a. The decades of the 1980s and 1990s have been marked by slow but persistent population growth.

b. The median household income for Huntingdon County was significantly below that of the state in 1990 ($23,067 versus $29,069).

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 which are similar to other central Pennsylvania counties.

Economy
a. The county has a higher percentage of manufacturing workers (25%) 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. Despite the consistent acreage of agricultural land over the past decade, the number of farms is decreasing; particularly significant is the loss of 40 dairy farms between 1990 and 1995.

Infrastructure/Community Facilities
a. The availability of local community park and recreation facilities is limited despite the existence of large areas of public land in the county.

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

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

d. 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.

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

f. 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. County residents do not have direct access to the interstate highway system, but 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.

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.
Appendix

History of Huntingdon County
HISTORY OF HUNTINGDON COUNTY

Huntingdon County was established on September 20, 1787, from part of Bedford County. The present boundaries of the county were attained in 1846.

The earliest inhabitants of what is today known as Huntingdon County belonged to the Archaic Culture some 8,000 years ago. A mobile people living in groups of about 100 persons, they survived by hunting, fishing and gathering. Recent evidence uncovered at the Sheep Rock archaeological sites in the Raystown Valley of Huntingdon County also affirms the existence of the Transitional, Woodland, Proto-Historic, and Shenk's Ferry Cultures.

When the first white traders entered the area in the 1740s, they encountered the Susquehannock Indians, but left little record of their contact. These traders, and subsequent early settlers, traveled on the existing Indian paths, including the Frankstown Path. The first settlers began crossing the Tuscarora Mountain in 1748, and squatters were warned to move from the lands not yet purchased from the Indians. When Indians drove settlers from the area and burned their cabins, it became clear that the time for new territorial purchases had arrived. On July 6, 1754, the Treaty of Albany with the Six Nations extinguished the Indians' title “as far as the Province extends.”

The Delawares, angered at having their lands sold from beneath them, joined the French and by 1755 the frontier was a dangerous place for settlers. Aughwick, a settlement established around 1750 where Shartiesburg now stands, became the center of events in Huntingdon County during the French and Indian War. George Croghan, who founded the town, fortified it with the construction of Fort Shirley, and supervised the construction of a number of other county forts for the protection of the new settlers.

The dangerous condition of the frontier halted development of the land purchased through the Treaty of Albany, and from 1755 to 1762 little land was settled in the area. Danger from the Indians increased again in 1763 and conflicts continued until 1766. However, by 1767 all good lands in the valleys and along the rivers of the county had been taken up. In 1767 the town of Huntingdon, then known as Standing Stone, was laid out. By 1775, the town contained four or five houses.

During the Revolution there was opposition to independence in Huntingdon County, although those favoring it were in a large majority. The frontier was left largely unprotected during the hostilities and in 1779 Congress authorized the raising of five companies of rangers for protective service on the frontiers. During the later part of the war one or more companies were enlisted from Huntingdon County and sent to the front in the eastern part of the state. Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown on October 19, 1781, but it was not until 1782 that peace finally reached the frontier.

The twin engines that drove the economic development of Huntingdon County in its early years were agriculture and iron manufacture, and the demands of these industries spurred the development of the transportation industry. As early as the 1780s, area farmers were producing grain in excess of local needs, and they were shipping flour and whiskey to distant markets in exchange for money and essential goods not manufactured locally. By this time, the forests were perceptibly disappearing as they were being replaced with cultivated crops, and flour mills were being built along streams where sufficient water power was available. The great success of farmers in Huntingdon County can be measured by the large number of substantial farmhouses found throughout the county built during the years from 1825 to 1865.

The iron industry grew during this same period. It originated in 1786 with the erection of Bedford Furnace in present-day Orbisonia, and grew with the establishment of a number of other forges and furnaces throughout the county. “Juniata Charcoal Iron” was known far and wide for its quality and the industry provided considerable employment for county residents. The iron industry reached its zenith between 1830 and 1850. It did not survive the challenges presented by improved transportation, the discovery of large iron ore deposits in the West, and the technological advances within the industry that occurred following the Civil War.

Early in the nineteenth century, transportation was improved in the county with the widening of Indian paths into wagon roads. The Juniata Mail Stage was established in 1808. By 1829 passengers from Philadelphia could reach Huntingdon in two days and could proceed to Pittsburgh in another three and one-half days. The construction of turnpikes shortly thereafter reduced the time for the entire trip to three days. The Huntingdon, Cambria, and Indiana Turnpike and the Lewistown Turnpike were major improvements in this regard.

A new era of transportation began in 1831 when the first canal boat arrived in Huntingdon. Travel was more comfortable and great quantities of materials could be transported with relative ease along the Pennsylvania Canal. The manufacture of canal boats took place in the county and many communities along the canal, including
Petersburg, Spruce Creek and Water Street, flourished as trans-shipping points for interior villages.

Although it was an important transportation improvement, the canal was short-lived. The first train arrived in Huntingdon on June 6, 1850, and gradually the railroad displaced the canal. In 1881 the last canal boat left Huntingdon, and the railroad quickly left its mark on the county. Marklesburg, Mount Union, Mapleton and Mill Creek owe much of their early development to the construction of the railroad.

North-south railways were constructed to connect with the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad Company completed its line from Huntingdon to Mount Dallas in 1857. The East Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company joined the Pennsylvania Railroad at Mount Union and was completed to Robertsdale in 1874. These railroads led to the development of the Broad Top Coal Fields in southern Huntingdon County. Coalmont, Broad Top City, Robertsdale, Dudley, and Woodvale, important coal mining communities along the railroads, all prospered as production from the coal fields grew throughout the nineteenth century.

A number of other industries prospered in the county in the second half of the nineteenth century. Fine glass sand, found near Mapleton, and ganister rock, found in the Mount Union and Alexandria areas and used in the manufacture of silica brick, were both mined during this period. The sand continues to be mined today.

In 1875 the Orbison family built a car manufacturing works in Huntingdon. Radiators were later manufactured at this establishment. J.C. Blair, a Huntingdon resident, invented a writing tablet in 1879, and a successful industry subsequently developed for their production. By 1882 the tablets were being shipped to every state in the union; by 1889 they were being distributed all over the world. Blair's success was based on promotion and marketing, and it relied heavily on the railroad.

During this period Huntingdon Borough, advantageously situated on the Pennsylvania Railroad, grew rapidly. By 1890 the town resembled a small industrial city, an appearance which, in many respects, it retains today. The nation's expanding rail system encouraged Huntingdon and other towns and cities to participate in the expanded trade and commerce with a much larger market. With Huntingdon's expanded employment opportunities and increased population, it developed into the commercial center of the county.

At the turn of the century growth and industrial development were focused on Mount Union. Rail connections, a ready coal supply, and a huge store of ganister rock drew refractory brick manufacturers to Mount Union. Hundreds of workers were attracted to the town, which became known as the "Silica Brick Capital of the World."

In 1912 the county's industrial development continued with the establishment of a large silk mill and, in 1918, coal field production peaked at 2,422,000 tons. The textile industry expanded in Mount Union and Huntingdon in the post-World War I period, and it employed a significant population of female workers. Development in the county slowed with the onset of the Depression, and the refractory industry labor force was reduced. However, the garment factory employed increased numbers of women through the 1930s.

By the 1930s additional improvements were being made in the county. Rural areas of the county were electrified during this period and "Pinchot" roads were constructed. US Route 22, a modern three and four lane highway, was constructed between 1940 and 1949, and the Pennsylvania Turnpike provided modern highway access to Harrisburg and Pittsburgh in 1940. The 1940s also saw the conversion of the old Silk Mill into a fiberglass manufacturing facility when Owens Corning Fiberglas purchased the Huntingdon site.

The years since World War II have brought additional changes to the county. In the 1950s the coal industry collapsed in the Broad Top region, thereby shutting down most of the mines and the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad (1954). In 1956 the last deep coal mine and the EBT yards were closed. (The narrow gauge railroad was reopened in 1960 on a seasonal basis for tourists.) Several of the county's leading industries were lost during the post-war period; they included General Refractories (Mount Union, 1956), Harbison-Walker Brick Plant (Mount Union, 1983), Federal Refractories (Alexandria), and North American Refractories (1990). The Pennsylvania Railroad merged with the New York Central to become the Penn-Central in 1962, only to file for bankruptcy in 1971. The Consolidated Rail Corporation, known as Conrail, now operates the main line through Huntingdon.

The trend toward environmentalism in the 1970s and '80s brought several major public works projects to Huntingdon County. A number of sewage treatment plants were constructed, and an excellent fishery was restored to the Juniata and its tributaries. The extensive flooding that followed Hurricane Agnes in 1972 spawned major urban renewal efforts in Huntingdon, Smithfield and Mount Union as dilapidated housing was demolished, dikes were built, and local infrastructure was renewed.

Perhaps the largest impact on the landscape in the post-war period resulted from the construction of Raystown Dam between 1968 and 1973. This massive public works project of the US Army Corps of Engineers created an 8,300 acre lake along the
Raystown Branch of the Juniata River and brought a sizeable tourist industry to the County in search of fishing and boating. The construction of vacation homes in the area became popular, and by the 1980s Raystown Lake was drawing an estimated one and one-half million visitors each year.

In 1987 Huntingdon County celebrated its bicentennial with tours of the 100 year old courthouse and a large parade. The Commonwealth constructed a second prison in Smithfield Township in 1988, and the J.C. Blair Hospital underwent a major expansion during the 1980s and '90s. The Mount Union area experienced major industrial expansion during the 1990s with the opening of the Riverview Business Center, Bonney Forge Corporation and Berg Electronics.

In 1990, with a population numbering 44,164 persons, the character of Huntingdon County remained predominately rural, although a more heavily developed commercial corridor was present along US Route 22. Despite increasing tourism and commercial development, as the twentieth century draws to a close, the county is experiencing a relatively high rate of unemployment, and many of the older village commercial centers show signs of decline. Still, because Huntingdon County did not experience rapid growth and development after World War II, the county’s boroughs and rural villages still retain much of their vernacular architecture and historic character, and much interest exists in utilizing these resources to enhance the quality of life and economic condition of the county.

Many of the county’s well-preserved sites and structures have acquired official recognition. Huntingdon County has 34 individual properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the East Broad Top Railroad and Pulpit Rocks, which are also National Historic Landmarks. Seven of the county’s historic districts are also listed on the National Register. They include Huntingdon Borough, Mount Union Borough, Robertsdale, Woodvale, Greenwood Furnace, Marklesburg Borough, the Whipple Dam State Park Day Use Historic District, and the Pennsylvania Railroad Historic District. These and other important sites, all augmented by documents, photographs, and artifacts in the collections of the county’s historical societies and museums, make Huntingdon County especially rich and varied in opportunities for participating in heritage tourism.

In 1990, the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee completed the Huntingdon County Historic Preservation Plan. The plan identified eleven areas targeted for preservation, interpretation and development. These sites included the East Broad Top Railroad, the Swigart Auto Museum, the Huntingdon Borough Historic District, the Williamsburg to Alexandria Trail, the Juniata River Project, the Broad Top Area Coal Field, the Alexandria Historic District, the Mount Union Historic District, the Juniata Iron Industry, and the Heritage Tour Route. Inclusion in the Plan allowed project sponsors to seek federal funding assistance through the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission and provided an agreed upon set of heritage goals and objectives.

The Huntingdon County Heritage Tour Route was more fully developed in the years following the completion of the Plan. The route consists of two loops covering nearly 200 miles of the county. Each loop passes approximately 24 sites, attractions, landmarks, historic villages and museums, as well as the county’s beautiful landscapes. The Huntingdon County Heritage Guide, produced in 1995, is a guide to the tour route.

Renewed interest in the county’s heritage and historic sites focused attention on the preservation of the East Broad Top Railroad in the 1990s. A 1990 study by the National Park Service recommended restoring all 31 miles of the track and operating it as a national park, but federal cutbacks doomed the proposal. A 1996 plan recommended the creation of an EBT Trust and a public-private partnership to finance acquisition and rehabilitation. In 1995 the More Than A Train Ride project was developed to encourage communication and community involvement along the EBT corridor. Support continues to grow for the preservation and development of the EBT as a result of these efforts.

In 1996 the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee, together with the Huntingdon County Commissioners and the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department, completed the Huntingdon County Heritage Plan to guide the preservation, interpretation and development of heritage sites throughout the county into the future. The purpose of the plan was to examine the important remnants of the county’s history that survive and remain meaningful to its residents; to suggest a means by which those historical resources can be preserved and used; and to offer strategies for turning the county’s heritage sites and stories into opportunities for economic development.

The heritage planning efforts included an extensive public participation process, which identified numerous historic and heritage sites and ideas for preservation and development. Five top historic sites and six themes were identified as important to the development and preservation of the county’s heritage. The themes included the railroad, canal, coal, paths and highways, iron, and Native Americans. The sites included the East Broad Top Railroad, the Huntingdon County Courthouse, the Huntingdon Union Depot, the Pennsylvania Canal, and the Company Square in Robertsdale.

The plan also identified six strategic areas for action: historic resources, interpretation, planning and management, economic development, promotion and marketing, and education. Specific goals and objectives were identified for each area, and specific projects and tasks were identified for each objective. The projects and tasks address the
concerns of the public and the overall plan presents a comprehensive strategy for preserving and developing heritage sites throughout the county.

Following completion of the 1996 Heritage Plan, the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee continues to meet regularly to act as a forum for discussion on methods for realizing the economic benefit of heritage preservation in the county and to pursue and monitor heritage activities county-wide.
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*Huntingdon County Heritage Preservation Plan*. Huntingdon County Planning Commission, September 1990.


Continuity Through Conservation II:

July 2000

Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan
Phase II, The Plan
WHEREAS, Huntingdon County is experiencing heightened development pressures and population increases; and,

WHEREAS, the Huntingdon County Board of Commissioners is committed to fostering proper growth and development through effective planning to ensure the enjoyment of life by each citizen in a pleasant and harmonious environment; and,

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 247) requires counties to prepare and adopt comprehensive plans; and,

WHEREAS, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, under the direction of the Board of Commissioners, through careful study, community input and public discussion, has prepared a comprehensive plan to provide guidance in response to inevitable change; and,

WHEREAS, this draft Plan addresses many critical issues facing the County, including economic development, natural resources and conservation, housing, land use, community services and facilities, historical and cultural, and transportation issues; and,

WHEREAS, the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan is a tool to promote economic development; to revitalize communities; to protect farms, forests, and streams; to safeguard recreational and natural areas; and to sustain open space as well as the aesthetic and historic characteristics of the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission has recommended adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, consisting of maps, charts, tables and textual matter, and entitled "Continuity Through Conservation II" by the Huntingdon County Board of Commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, the required public meeting and public hearing have been held by the Planning Commission and County Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioners of Huntingdon County hereby adopts the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, "Continuity Through Conservation II," dated July 2000, as the official Comprehensive Plan for the County.

Adopted this 11th day of July, 2000.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Alexa R. Cook, Chairman

Kend W. East, Vice Chairman

Roy E. Thomas, Secretary

Attest:

Eydie S. Miller, Chief Clerk
CONTINUITY THROUGH CONSERVATION II:
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
PHASE II, THE PLAN

July 2000

Prepared for:

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Prepared by:

GRANEY, GROSSMAN, RAY AND ASSOCIATES
A Community Development and Planning Partnership
106 South Main Street, P.O. Box 407
Harrisville, Pennsylvania 16038

This project was funded in part with a State Planning Assistance Grant (SPAG) from the State of Pennsylvania and Community Development Block Grant funds.
Citizens of Huntingdon County,

The Huntingdon County Planning Commission is pleased to present Phase II of Continuity Through Conservation II, the new Comprehensive Plan for Huntingdon County. This volume is the actual plan, detailing our vision for the next 20 years and including goals, objectives, policies, and detailed plans to make that vision come true.

This Plan was really the result of hundreds of citizens expressing their desires through public meetings, mini-conferences, and a community attitude survey. I encourage each and every interested person to take the time to review this document. It is our hope you will find it contains a blueprint for a very bright future for our County.

Sincerely,

Larry Mutti, Chairman
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Section I

Preface: The Vision of Continuity Through Conservation II

Background Studies and Citizen Involvement
Huntingdon County has experienced the paradoxes of economic growth and high unemployment, of abundant land and scarce developable land, of older declining communities and new residential developments, of numerous local governments but little local governmental management capability. An explanation of these paradoxes will provide significant insight into the circumstances creating a critical need for an update of the County Comprehensive Plan.

**Growth and Unemployment:** Huntingdon County’s population grew at the modest rate of 4.5 percent between 1980 and 1990, from 42,253 to 44,164. Housing, however, grew at the rate of 14 percent during the same period! Not only has the population and housing stock grown, but the economic base of the County has grown as well. Employment grew from 15,338 in 1980 to 17,482 in 1990, an increase of 14 percent as service businesses mushroomed. This was due, in part, to Raystown Lake and the growth of tourism in the County. Unfortunately, unemployment has persisted at record high levels throughout the post war period. In 1996, 2,400 workers were out of work. These workers constituted 12.8 percent of the County workforce, compared with a State unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. During the 1990s, two long-time County firms announced plans to close: Dallco Industries has closed its Mount Union plant (115 employees) after over 60 years of operation, and Elco has closed its Huntingdon plant (115 employees) which had been in operation for 35 years.

**Declining Communities and New Development:** Despite overall growth, 24 of the County’s 48 municipalities suffered a loss of population during the 1930s. These 16 older boroughs and 8 rural townships face many of the same problems as our larger cities: declining tax base, a declining economic base, and substandard housing. Paradoxically, residential subdivisions are springing up all over the County. Huntingdon Borough added a new 255 lot subdivision in one year. Second-home developments litter the scenic hills surrounding Raystown Lake. In a typical year, 25 percent of all new housing consists of seasonal housing. Interestingly, these seasonal homes are often unaffordable by many local residents. Major new development pressures will come from the development of the Riverview Business Center near Mount Union, the development of Prison Land near Huntingdon and, potentially, the redevelopment of the East Broad Top Railroad National Historic Landmark.

**Numerous Governments with Little Management Capability:** Huntingdon County has 48 units of local government for a population of 44,164, an average of 920 people per locality. These consist of 18 boroughs and 30 townships of the second class. The County’s largest municipality, and county seat, is Huntingdon Borough with 6,854 people, and the smallest municipality is Coalmont Borough with 109 persons.

Huntingdon Borough is the only municipality in the County with full-time administrative staff. Few local municipalities have full-time management staff, relying on part-time staff, consultants, and volunteer boards to manage the municipalities, enforce ordinances, and provide services.

**Transportation:** Transportation throughout the County is dependent on private automobiles. Intercity commutes for County residents are difficult due to limited rail passenger service and a lack of scheduled air service in the County. County residents do not have a direct access to the Interstate Highway System but can access it within 30 to 60 minutes from all areas of the County. Most County roads operate at an acceptable level of service but require major maintenance. County roads do not meet modern design standards and are therefore inadequate. The County’s ridge and valley topography makes travel (particularly east-west) difficult.

**Land Use:** The County has no countywide land development ordinances. While nearly all of the municipalities have a building permit ordinance, only 26 have a subdivision ordinance and only 9 have a local zoning ordinance. County Planning staff assists local municipalities on land use matters whenever possible. For example, in 1989, Walker Township adopted a zoning ordinance and, Oneida Township adopted a

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*Section I - Preface, Background Studies and Citizen Involvement*
comprehensive plan in 1994 and a zoning ordinance in 1999, both developed by the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department.

While Huntingdon County will continue to change in the future, it is extremely important that the growth that will occur be directed in a way that preserves the qualities that make the County a desirable place to live.

**Comprehensive Planning:** One of the first steps taken by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, upon its establishment on November 15, 1962, was the development of a comprehensive plan. Between 1967 and 1971, the first comprehensive plan was prepared by consultants Wilson, Polikowski, Heine and Simpson. It was titled *Continuity Through Conservation* and was produced in two volumes: *Volume I, Background for Planning and Volume II, Concept for Plan Development*.

The changes in Huntingdon County over the past 30 years, since the adoption of the first comprehensive plan, have not been sudden or dramatic, but they are substantial nonetheless. The County is now home to an expanded Raystown Lake and hundreds of new vacation homes. While maintaining its rural character, the County is plagued by some of the same problems identified in *Continuity Through Conservation*: high unemployment, loss of family farms, low household income, and outdated infrastructure.

In an effort to provide a framework for shaping the kind of future that Huntingdon County residents desire, Huntingdon has revised the County comprehensive plan.

**Definition and Purpose of the Comprehensive Plan:** The comprehensive plan has been the cornerstone of American planning theory and practice since the early 1900s. It is a document which contains the basic policies that will guide the future growth and development of the community. The plan is typically of a general nature, long-range in outlook, and includes all factors affecting growth and development.

The comprehensive plan serves three principal functions:

- The plan is a statement of goals, a listing of objectives, and a vision of what could be.
- The plan is an educational tool, helping everyone who uses it understand the conditions, problems, and opportunities of the community through the provision of factual information.
- The plan serves as a guide to public and private decision-making, thus, shaping the future of the community.

A comprehensive plan by itself is not a solution to all the problems and concerns of a community. The value of a well prepared plan, however, is derived from the process of preparing the plan and the implementation of the plan after it is prepared. The plan should focus attention on the major issues and concerns of a community and establish a basis for debate, discussion, and conflict resolution. The plan should never be regarded as a finished project, to be completed every ten years or so, but as a community-based planning process.

**Legal Basis for Comprehensive Planning in Pennsylvania:** In Pennsylvania, both county and local municipal governments have the authority to prepare and adopt comprehensive plans. This authority is contained in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act 247 of 1968, as amended. The MPC mandates that comprehensive plans contain certain basic elements. These elements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A statement of community development goals and objectives;
- A land use element;
- A transportation element;
- A community facilities element; and
- A statement of the relationship of the community's future development to adjacent areas.

Section 304 of the MPC specifies the legal status of the county comprehensive plan within municipalities. It provides for review of certain
municipal actions when the municipality is within a county that has an adopted comprehensive plan. The municipality's governing body (supervisors, commissioners or council) is required to submit proposed enumerated public improvement activities (e.g., erection of a new public structure) and land use regulations (e.g., adoption of a subdivision ordinance) to the county planning agency for review and recommendations.

Section 306 of the MPC addresses consistency among comprehensive plans. It states that municipalities that have their own comprehensive plans shall give consideration to other adopted municipal or county comprehensive plans in order to protect the objectives of each plan. The Act thus emphasizes coordination between municipal and county comprehensive planning.

It should also be noted that a comprehensive plan prepared in Pennsylvania is only an advisory document. It is not a development ordinance or a zoning map, and does not contain any rules and regulations. The plan, as an official document, however, does serve as a catalyst and guide for the development of various ordinances and other planning tools.

County and Local Plans: Huntingdon County and many of the County's constituent municipalities have prepared and adopted comprehensive plans. As mentioned previously, these plans, prepared under Pennsylvania enabling legislation, are only advisory in nature and are not development ordinances. The difference between the County and municipal comprehensive plans is one of detail. The County Plan is more general in nature, with land use being addressed on a regional basis and concerns of County importance addressed. Municipal-level plans address land use at a tax parcel level and address specific local concerns. Planning may be done at an even more detailed level, with functional plans such as transportation plans or Act 537 sewage facilities plans in this category.

It is important that the County Plan deal with issues of a regional nature, such as growth management, environmental quality, economic development and transportation. The municipal plans that have been prepared in Huntingdon County over the past decade have generally included only those issues specifically related to their own individual jurisdictions. In other words, a majority of local comprehensive planning stopped at the municipal boundary unless a joint comprehensive plan was prepared.

Examples of some of the major issues and concerns that will be dealt with in the Plan include the location and extent of development, the location and timing of community infrastructure, environmental conservation, and economic development. The County Plan strongly emphasizes the need for an intergovernmental cooperation approach to solving regional problems and issues. Throughout the preparation of the Plan, the public, organizations, and municipalities have been strongly encouraged to participate and become involved in the total comprehensive planning process.

Past County Comprehensive Planning Efforts: The adoption of the Plan in 1971 was followed by the hiring of the first planning staff. Today, six full-time employees comprise the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department staff: Planning Director, Planner/Grant Administrator, Planner/GIS Technician; Planning Technician, Bookkeeper, Secretary. The full-time staff is supplemented with planning consultants and planning interns. The staff is charged with advising the Huntingdon County Planning Commission and Huntingdon County Commissioners on a variety of planning issues, maintaining the comprehensive plan and implementing the comprehensive plan. The Planning and Development Department also administers various State and Federal grants related to community development.

Throughout the 1970s, the local planning staff prepared many planning studies in order to keep the comprehensive plan up to date. These technical reports were funded through the Federal 701 Planning Program. The Huntingdon County Planning Commission usually followed these technical reports with an update of one or more elements of the comprehensive plan. Several other important planning studies completed by the County in the past decade are also listed below. The last of the 701-funded planning studies was completed in 1982. Following are the most current updates of the comprehensive plan prior to this document. Adopted plan elements are marked with an asterisk (*).
Continuity Through Conservation, Volume 1, Background for Planning, 1967
Continuity Through Conservation, Volume 2, Concept for Plan Development, 1967
1978 Housing Policy and Plan
1978 Community Facilities Plan
1978 Sewer and Water Plan
1978 Conservation Plan
1979 Economic and Employment Plan
1979 Open Space and Recreation Plan
1979 Land Use Plan
1980 Transportation Plan
1981 Energy Policy and Plan
1982 Countywide Development Goals
1991 Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon Solid Waste Plan
1996 Huntingdon County Heritage Plan
1996 Huntingdon County Transportation Study

The Planning Commission has encouraged local municipalities to form planning commissions and to develop local and regional comprehensive plans. The County has supported local municipal planning through staff technical assistance and grant writing for local planning funds.

Since 1994, Huntingdon County has been developing a Geographic Information System (GIS). While this may not traditionally be considered a planning document, it is an integral part of the comprehensive plan. In 1994, the County entered into a contract with the Spatial Analysis Research Center at Indiana University of Pennsylvania for the development of a GIS. The present GIS is based on USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle maps which are available from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. This data, already available in GIS format, greatly facilitated the development of the comprehensive plan.

A New Comprehensive Plan for Huntingdon County: Change is inevitable! Planning is a systematic, creative approach to manage change in our communities. It is directed toward the future by analyzing trends in land use and community development. Communities who anticipate change and plan to address the opportunities presented by change will be better communities. Through the planning process, the county can analyze problems, visualize futures, compare alternatives and describe the implications of various choices so that citizens and public officials can make knowledgeable choices. Through careful planning, our communities can make wise use of scarce resources - both natural and financial.

Background - Why a New Comprehensive Plan?

As discussed previously, the County's first comprehensive plan, Continuity Through Conservation, was a success in that it was the first effort to complete comprehensive planning on a Countywide scale. The plan did a good job of identifying problems and offering specific solutions. A comprehensive plan needs to be periodically reviewed and updated to ensure that its goals and recommendations are still relevant and realistic. From 1982 to 1997, the County did not have the staff or financial resources to keep the comprehensive plan current. In the thirty years since Continuity Through Conservation was adopted, the County has experienced many changes. Local citizens, elected officials, the Planning Commission and County Commissioners agree that it is now time to update County policies related to future development in the County, and to adopt a new plan to meet the changing needs of the County.

The Process for Developing a New Comprehensive Plan: The Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan was updated in three phases: Phase I includes what are commonly called background studies. Phase II encompasses the development of the Plan based on both the Background Studies and extensive public participation, and Phase III includes the adoption and implementation of the Plan. Phase I was carried out during 1997-1998, Phase II was prepared in 1999, and Phase III will be prepared in 2000.

Several major steps were taken to advance the comprehensive plan in 1996: The Huntingdon County Heritage Plan was published and distributed in the fall of the year. In cooperation with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, a Huntingdon County Transportation Study was completed. The County also applied for and received a State Planning Assistance Grant to fund the update of the Comprehensive Plan.
The completion of the Huntingdon County Heritage Plan marked the end of a two-year planning process. Funded by a grant from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission, the Plan identifies significant historic preservation issues and proposes activities intended to conserve, market and develop the County's historic resources. The results of this planning effort have been incorporated into the new Comprehensive Plan.

The Huntingdon County Transportation Study marked an important milestone in transportation planning in Pennsylvania. It represents a cooperative effort among Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset Counties, the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to develop local transportation plans. This study is significant in that PennDOT allowed the downloading of several of its databases into a regional transportation information system. This information was then used, in conjunction with maps, to develop an analysis of the transportation system within Huntingdon County. This analysis was used to develop the transportation section of the Comprehensive Plan.

The development of the new comprehensive plan was a highly participatory process. The entire community, including individuals, organizations, and municipalities, was encouraged to participate and become part of the overall planning process. Following, the publication of the draft Background Studies report, a series of public meetings were held at locations throughout the County. In addition, two topical mini-conferences were held, one on economic issues, and one to discuss land use and the environment. Finally, the work of the citizen members of the Planning Commission was augmented by a special Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee. This committee was comprised of local business leaders, government officials, and concerned members of the community. The committee met monthly during the process.

Continuity Through Conservation II: It has been decided to title this comprehensive plan Continuity Through Conservation II. This is because of the strong belief that our County and its communities can be better places to live only if we conserve the best from our past. While development is necessary to accommodate the growing number of persons who live in Huntingdon County, this development needs to be shaped by our natural, historical, economical, social, and spiritual heritage.

Phase I, published in a separate report titled, Continuity Through Conservation II, Phase I, Background Studies, is comprised of numerous charts, text, tables, and maps on virtually every aspect of the County. Phase I was completed in 1997. It includes a study of the following elements: Land Use, Housing, Population and Demographics, Economy, Environmental Conservation, Infrastructure and Community Facilities, Transportation, Heritage and Cultural Resources, and Intergovernmental Cooperation. Further Background information can be found in Continuity Through Conservation II, Supplement to Phase I Background Studies, available from the Huntingdon County Planning Commission.

Phase II, the Comprehensive Plan, is published in this volume. Phase II addresses the following elements: Land Use, Economic Development, Natural Resources and Conservation, Historical and Cultural, Housing, Transportation and Community Services and Facilities. An Implementation Strategy was formulated which reviews specific strategies and ordinances and makes recommendations as to which are suited to Huntingdon County. To make its use easier, Phase II has been divided into sections. The current element is Section I. The sections are described as follows:

Section I describes the additional work, outreach and surveys needed to prepare a truly citizen-oriented Comprehensive Plan.

Section II contains the vision statement, goals and objectives for the Plan. The purpose of the vision statement is to express where, the residents of Huntingdon County, wish their community to be in ten years.

Section III contains specific Plans for Land Use, Housing, Environmental Conservation, Economic Development, Transportation, Historic Preservation, and Community Facilities. Again, an effort has been made to look ten years into the future. Within each of these separate plan chapters, the reader will find:

Section I - Preface, Background Studies and Citizen Involvement
A summary of findings, which explains the facts and opinions which contributed to the decision-making process.

An analysis of what these facts mean for the future and detailed plans.

Scenario 2020: This vision of the future of our community is written as if it were really 21 years in the future.

Finally, Section IV provides an Action Plan which recapitulates specific recommendations and then provides recommendations for translating the Plan from ideas into action.

For those with limited time, the summary pages contain virtually every major idea, activity, or project. For those with an interest in a particular recommendation, further material is provided in the detailed Plan.
BACKGROUND STUDIES AND CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

Since the completion of Phase I, several activities have been initiated, which lead to Phase II of Continuity Through Conservation II. These activities were necessary to properly draft the Comprehensive Plan. They are described under one of the four headings listed below:

1. Additional Data: Phase I presented excellent background information on Huntingdon County. However, the consideration of specific policies, for this Plan, raised questions which required more information. To fill these informational gaps, further research was required. Such efforts included:

   - **Housing**: Statistical housing data from Census Reports does provide a wide range of data, but, it does not include information on the quality of housing stock. Four recent municipal comprehensive plans did provide some housing condition profiles. But, even this was insufficient. They were supplemented by additional field work in six geographic areas during 1998. In all, using prior and current efforts, approximately 30 percent of the County’s housing stock was viewed. Through these field observations, it was concluded that 1,600 to 1,700 dwelling units in Huntingdon County need rehabilitation.

   A second element of additional housing research and analysis related to home ownership profiles. Due to the age characteristics of the owners of homes in the County it was concluded that there would be a steady supply of used homes coming onto the market in Huntingdon County. This will occur as older residents opt for other living arrangements. The pattern suggests that the demand for apartment and townhouse units, either rental or “condo,” should increase.

   - **Public Utilities**: An essential consideration for development is public water and sewer connections. Due to ever-increasing environmental regulations, intense development requires these services. Also, they can be essential for Huntingdon County’s economic well-being. For example, new manufacturing plants which create new jobs often require the extension of water and sewer services. Data contained in the Background Report had to be expanded as the issues of current and future service areas needed to be addressed. The current capacity of these utilities and their condition must be a concern for any Plan of the County’s future. Consequently, this element deserved additional attention.

   - **Other Concerns**: In addition to housing and utilities, a number of other elements needed to be examined. Included were recent development patterns, land characteristics, important scenic areas, and related items. The importance of some of these concerns was highlighted by public input into the planning process. A final aspect was a brief analysis of municipal capacity. Every Plan recommends projects and programs. Typically, such activities fall on local government for implementation. If some of these recommendations are beyond the capacity of existing institutions, new approaches may be required.

2. The Quality of Life Survey: To truly be successful, a Plan must reflect more than the ideas of technicians and political leaders. It truly must be a reflection of the priorities, ideas, and aspirations of the public.

   "To truly be successful, a Plan must reflect more than the ideas of technicians and political leaders. It truly must be a reflection of the priorities, ideas, and aspirations of the public."
of County residents was drawn, some 1,760 names. The final element was to elicit enough responses to provide valid results on both a Countywide and regional basis. This effort was completed in the summer and fall of 1998.

Survey results proved of such interest, a separate report was generated on this element entitled *Charting a Course for the Next Century: Huntingdon County Quality of Life Survey*. However, most important, the survey achieved its goal. It gave those involved in the Plan an accurate insight into the views of County residents on key planning issues.

3. **Visioning**: Visioning has become an increasingly important element of planning over the past decade. It is a clear recognition that citizens must “buy into” comprehensive plans. Too often, citizens believe all decisions are made at the Courthouse, Township Building, or Borough Hall. Through visioning, individuals can directly relate their ideals, recommendations, and concerns. What is their vision of Huntingdon County’s future?

In Huntingdon County, new approaches for citizen input were explored. This involved listening; listing strengths, problems, and proposals; as well as asking participants to jointly rank expressed ideas. At some meetings, these ideas were expressed graphically on County maps to better connect concepts to places. A policy of outreach was followed. To go to the citizens, six locations were chosen - Warrior’s Mark, Petersburg, Huntingdon Borough, Mount Union, Orbisonia, and Robertsdale. This strategy allowed Countywide participation. All meetings were held at 7:30 p.m. to further enhance participation. However, these sessions could be described as only a modest success. Attendance was best in areas where some types of local development issues were present. In other regions, participation was limited. Yet, these six meetings did give planners a good range of the ideas and insights in the concerns of citizens across Huntingdon County.

4. **Mini-Conferences**: To supplement visioning, two mini-conferences were also held. Both were structured around key issues. One was convened on Economic Concerns, the other highlighted Land Use and the Environment. Sessions for the mini-conferences were held on April 30, 1998 and January 21, 1999. Each were very well attended, with the January Land Use meeting seeing the room filled to capacity. By focusing on specific topics in these sessions, greater public interest was achieved.

Participants included a variety of political, business, and community leaders. Divided into groups, they were given some general information about the areas of concern. As most participants were not professional planners, a brief overview on possible “tools” was presented which could help to achieve goals. Finally, each participant team was given time to prepare a list of priorities. In one session, maps were used so written goals could be related to specific areas of Huntingdon County.

In combination, the mini-conferences served to involve the participants in the planning process as well as eliciting excellent ideas for Huntingdon’s future.
This Plan, *Continuity Through Conservation II*, is an update of the County’s first Comprehensive Plan completed in 1971. Appropriate to the Plan name, the Goals of that original document have been "conserved" where possible. Consequently, this Plan can be said to rest on a foundation laid down a generation ago.
Section II

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 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 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 Centers 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.

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

POLICIES:

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

Encourage the development of municipal and regional Comprehensive Plans in all areas of Huntingdon County.

Move towards complete coverage of Huntingdon by Subdivision and Land Development Regulations.

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

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

OBJECTIVE: Inform the citizens of Huntingdon County of the benefits of “quality community development” to create an expectation of excellence.

POLICY:

Educate communities on “a sense of place” and the benefit of clearly defined boundaries and “green belts.”

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

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:

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

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

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

Educate the public as to the benefits of trees and the positive effects they have on communities.
Educate and stress to builders the importance of "humane architecture," architecture that is beautiful, hospitable, and harmonizes with the surroundings.

Educate local officials about land use issues and trends.

Develop a model subdivision and zoning ordinance which incorporates “best management principles” such as neo-traditional development and conservation subdivisions.

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

**OBJECTIVE:** Encourage the reinvestment of both public and private dollars in urban Centers (whether boroughs or villages) to support revitalization through the use of land for medium density residential use, high density residential use, commercial uses, and good public semi-public uses.

**POLICIES:**

- Encourage dense commercial development nodes located close to existing urban Centers separated by lower density development.

- Promote zoning coverage of all boroughs in Huntingdon County, and high growth, select townships.

- Support upgrading zoning and codes administration in Huntingdon County.

- New housing should be encouraged as a form of revitalization in areas of existing development, especially where it provides an integrated high quality neighborhood setting.

- 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.

**OBJECTIVE:** Encourage the targeted development of suburban areas of the County where infrastructure is present and environmental conditions lend to the sound development of land for commercial, industrial, and medium to low density residential uses.

**POLICIES:**

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

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

- Examine the potential use of impact fees for large-scale development.

- Use real estate tax abatements as a bargaining tool to assure quality development in suburban areas. Provide education to local officials on how to use the abatement tool effectively.

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

**POLICIES:**

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

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

- Provide guidance to local officials to ensure that land use regulations in rural areas do not restrict traditional rural activities.
Include deed notations for lands abutting Agricultural Security Areas through subdivision and land development ordinances.

Develop standards to regulate large-scale, confined animal operations separately from traditional family farm agriculture in local land use ordinances.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

POLICIES:

- Form a Huntingdon County Agriculture Development Council to become a full partner in local economic development efforts.
- Support the development of new agriculture-related support businesses.
- Support the direct sale of farm products to County institutions.
- Support and encourage developing value-added forest products business in the County.
- Encourage re-mining of areas already mined in Huntingdon County to maximize efficient use of limited resources and to assure sound reclamation.

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

POLICIES:

- Support and encourage the development of a year-round, full-service resort at Raystown Lake.
- Encourage the preservation, reconstruction, and interpretation of the East Broad Top Railroad to become a major tourist resource. Implement the Full-Steam Ahead report.
- Support the expansion of new tourist-driven businesses (lodging, dining, retail), especially where they create new entrepreneurial opportunities for County residents.
- Promote existing heritage festivals and events in the Raystown Country Guide.
- Provide financial incentive grants for cultural activities at local festivals and events (festival fund).
Continue to distribute heritage promotional literature through Raystown Country Visitors Bureau.

Maintain the local satellite/tourist information Centers.

Develop signage for visitor information locations.

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

Continue to publish and distribute the Huntingdon County Heritage Guide.

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

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

Support Path of Progress tour route and regional heritage partnerships.

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

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

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

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

Encourage retail development in both downtowns and planned commercial Centers.

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

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.

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

Develop prison land currently being released as a high-quality multi-use commercial Center.

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

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

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

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

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

Share local economic development success stories with the general public.

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.

Support the development of services to serve local business.
Support efforts at labor force training and development as a means to meet the needs of County employees.

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

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

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

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

**POLICIES:**

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.

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

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

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

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

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

Support cooperation and coordination between all development organizations.

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

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:
- Nominate eligible local rivers as Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers.
- Protect floodplains and wetlands from development through enforcement of local floodplain management ordinances.
- Develop a Countywide Wellhead Protection Plan for Huntingdon County to protect public water supplies.
- Work with the Conservation agencies to encourage proper management of agricultural waste.
- Promote better enforcement of nutrient management regulations and development of other regulations dealing with Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.
- Support the application of sound erosion and sedimentation standards to all development, including forestry.

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

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

Develop County Storm Water Management Plans for each of the County’s 19 drainage areas.

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:
- Encourage forest landowners to participate in the Stewardship Forestry Program or Tree Farm Program.
- Where mining does occur, support the efficient re-mining of areas mined in the past to promote full reclamation.
- Encourage the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) by communities, agriculture, forestry, and land developers.
Integrate the protection of environmentally sensitive areas (steep, riparian, floodplain, wetland) into local zoning and subdivision ordinances.

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

Encourage the donation of scenic easements to the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy to preserve environmentally sensitive areas.

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

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

Encourage local governments to financially support existing conservancies.

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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

**POLICIES:**

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

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

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

POLICIES:

- Develop a publication on the significant historic architecture of Huntingdon County.
- Adopt and enforce local codes and ordinances to protect historic sites and districts.
- Implement the Heritage Resource Management Plan
- Draft a model historic preservation ordinance.
- Review local zoning ordinances to ensure compatibility with historic town planning and to encourage the reuse of historic structures.
- Encourage the use of Historic Architectural Review Board Districts and Historic Overlay Zoning in the protection of historic districts and sites.

OBJECTIVE: Focus heritage activities on Huntingdon County’s National Register Districts, Landmarks, and Sites:

Huntingdon Borough National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

- Support the adaptive reuse of Huntingdon’s Union Depot.
- Coordinate heritage activities with the HCHC.
- Extend the Historic District boundaries.

Mount Union National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

- Develop a campaign for the awareness of Mount Union’s ethnic cultures.
- Implement the Linear Park concept along Pennsylvania Avenue.

Section II: Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives
Develop Brick Industry Interpretive Programs (slide show, movies, museum).

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

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

**Robertsdale/Woodvale National Register Historic District**

**POLICIES:**
- Preserve and restore the former EBT Post Office and train Station.
- Expand the exhibits at the Reality Theater-Coal Miners Historical Society.
- Restore a company house as a museum.
- Develop a transportation link from Robertsdale to Woodvale to interpret coal mining/train.

**Greenwood Furnace National Register Historic District**

**POLICIES:**
- Implement the Greenwood Furnace State Park Interpretive Plan.
- Continue to present and develop first-person interpretive programs.
- Establish additional lodging facilities, including the existing Iron Masters Mansion.
- Establish a "Friends of the Park" group.

**Whipple Dam State Park Day Use National Historic District**

**POLICY:**
- Implement the Whipple Dam State Park Interpretive Plan.

**Pennsylvania Railroad National Historic District**

**POLICIES:**
- Include information on the engineering feat represented by this district in publications or museum exhibit possibly in the HUNT Tower.
- Place markers along the rail lines to interpret the 11 bridges found along the five-mile stretch.

**National Register Historic Sites**

**POLICIES:**
- Investigate the development and interpretation of Brumbaugh Homestead as a potential site for heritage and environmental activities.
- Interpret and link the Minersville coke ovens to the historic site in Dudley.

**East Broad Top National Historic Landmark**

**POLICIES:**
- Support the redevelopment of the EBT as recommended in the "Study of Alternatives" and "Full Steam Ahead" reports.
- Incorporate the EBT Trust and convey the EBT to the Trust.
- Incorporate an EBT/Tourism Authority or similar public financing agency.

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Section II: Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives
Restore service from Rockhill to Robertsdale and Mount Union.

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

Provide interpretive material and signage for the EBT.

**Potential National Register Districts and Sites**

**POLICIES:**

Prepare National Register of Historic Places applications for selected resources.

Nominate the following districts:

- Alexandria - currently in preparation
- Shirleysburg - declared eligible
- McAlevy’s Fort
- Petersburg - interest expressed
- Rockhill - interested
- Orbisonia - currently in preparation
- Spruce Creek
- McConnellstown
- Brumbaugh Homestead, St. Matthew’s Stone Church, Brumbaugh Cemetery and adjacent Schoolhouse and farmstead buildings
- Three Springs
- Saltillo

Nominate the following sites:

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

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

Monroe Furnace heritage “Discovery” site

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

**POLICIES:**

Identify historic resources which are threatened by neglect or demolition.

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

Identify canal remains for preservation.

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

Create an upper Stone Valley Preservation Plan.

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

Improve interpretive facilities at the Rockhill Trolley Museum.

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

**POLICIES:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**POLICIES:**

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

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

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

Implement the Trough Creek State Park Interpretive Plan.

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.

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

Periodically republish the Huntingdon County Heritage Guide.

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

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.

Develop canal and railroad interpretive exhibit at the Hartslog Museum.

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

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

POLICIES:

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

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

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

Provide adequate infrastructure for high density housing in appropriate locations.

Discourage intensive development of housing where infrastructure is lacking.

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

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

Encourage the use of residential tax abatements to promote infill housing in Centers.

Encourage infill development that is compatible with its surroundings.

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

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

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

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

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

Continue present public-supported, need-based housing rehabilitation efforts.
Encourage private and non-profit rehabilitation of existing housing, through individual and community-based initiatives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Target residential tax abatement programs toward affordable neighborhoods.

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.

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

POLICIES:

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

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

Focus State and Federal financial assistance on arterial highway needs.

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

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

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:

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

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

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

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

Develop a County-level Transportation Information System.

Section II: Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives
**OBJECTIVE:** Support the design of collector and local streets consistent with the nature and future land use of the community.

**POLICIES:**

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.).

Discourage strip commercial development in local zoning.

Support intersection improvements and realignments for traffic safety.

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

**POLICIES:**

Support continued and improved rail passenger service to Huntingdon.

Support improved rail freight service.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Promote mass transit rail and para-transit.

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

**POLICIES:**

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

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

Section II: Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

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

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop as complete a network of public facilities and services, as possible in designated Centers.

**POLICIES:**

Support adequate water and sewer in Centers to encourage development, eliminate water pollution, and promote the health and safety of residents.

Encourage the development of community parks and play fields in designated urban Centers.

Assure all Centers have adequate public buildings.

Support the J. C. Blair Community Hospital to retain it as a valuable local resource.

Encourage the placement of new public school facilities in Centers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**POLICIES:**

All municipalities should have updated Act 537 Plans.

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

Support intergovernmental cooperation in both planning and delivery of services.

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

Establish new public sewer facilities in Centers which lack them.

Establish new public water facilities in Centers which lack them.

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

Section II: Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives
Assist those urban areas which need public water or sewer to implement the centers concept.

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

**POLICIES:**

Support the development and maintenance of trails, including:

Lower Trail Extension

Investigate Huntingdon/Smithfield to Mount Union trail

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

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

Implementation of a hiking/biking trail around the lake as outlined in the Raystown Lake Master Plan.

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

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

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

**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:**

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

Promote leadership development throughout Huntingdon County, focusing on municipal, municipal authority, and County-elected and appointed officials.

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

Support the continuation of the Huntingdon County Public Library System on a Countywide basis.

Support and strengthen the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department.

Review County government space needs.

Complete 911 addressing to develop a fully integrated emergency response system.

Build municipal administrative capacity through a continuing support and educational role.

Develop “Know Huntingdon County” material for school systems.

Prepare a Huntingdon County Historic profile.

Prepare a Huntingdon County Natural Resources profile.

Prepare a Huntingdon County Governmental profile.

Develop a county park and recreation plan.

Prepare a Huntingdon County Economic profile.
Section III

Land Use Plan
Economic Development Plan
Natural Resources and Conservation Plan
Historical and Cultural Plan
Housing Plan
Transportation Plan
Community Services and Facilities 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.

I. Summary of Findings: A plan for the future must be solidly based in both the trends which 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:

1. 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.

2. Residents of the County community see two primary threats to the land use patterns they prefer:

   A. A growing pattern of underutilization and deterioration in some of the older established communities and selected rural areas.
   
   B. 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).

3. Residents of the County community will support land use regulations which:

   A. Protect pre-existing uses from new uses which would threaten existing use rights and property values.
   
   B. Permit full use of property for low-impact, traditional, or community-based activities or purposes

From the analysis of Continuity Through Conservation II (Volume 1):

1. In the last few decades, rural townships have been Huntingdon County's primary growth areas.

2. Since 1976, 10,000 new lots have been subdivided, representing 13 square miles.

3. For these past 20 years, the trend has been toward low-density development (2 dwelling units per acre to 2 acres per dwelling unit).

4. 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.

5. Like other rural areas, only a small percentage of the County's total land area is developed (3.45%, not including agriculture).

Section III: Analysis and Plan
6. Approximately 24 percent of the County is State or Federally owned: State Game Lands, State Forest, State Parks, and the Raystown Lake project are primary examples.

7. The predominant land use is forest, at 71 percent.

8. Agriculture constitutes 22 percent of the County’s land area, a figure which has remained fairly constant over the past decade.

9. Growth and development have not occurred in even distribution throughout the County.

10. There are many places in Huntingdon County with natural conditions which significantly limit growth and development.

11. 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:

1. Many of the boroughs and villages, where development was traditionally concentrated, are beginning to see deterioration and abandonment.

2. Huntingdon County is expected to gain 3,991 persons by 2010 and 4,681 by 2020. 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 create about 3,950 new households in the County by 2020. This will include 3,200 new households through growth and about 750 households created through structural changes in the current population.

**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 which 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:

First, any municipality in Huntingdon County is encouraged 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 which 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 provide a facilitator toward developing multi-municipal or regional partnerships.

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 Plan recommends partnerships be developed to prepare model approaches and draft model text for such ordinances. Such ordinances and approaches will result in practical, locally oriented means to provide needed universal 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 also has a role as an educator. Choices about land use decisions, now, will affect many aspects of the community over the next thirty to forty 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 3-5 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 the only 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 which 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 also graphically expressed by the citizens of the County (see Citizens’ Vision Map). This Citizen Vision Map 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 which 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 which should remain exactly as they are. Conservation was defined as undeveloped or sparsely developed areas which 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 (see the Conceptual Land Use Map) was the first and most basic visualization of future land use. It divided all of Huntingdon County into rural, urban, suburban areas, or greenways, defined as follows:

- **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 urban typic public facilities and services to the newer, more 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 create 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 which 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 which 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 which 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...
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Urban
Suburban
Rural
Greenways

CONCEPTUAL LANDUSE PLAN

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

GRANEY, GROSSMAN, RAY, AND ASSOCIATES
A Community Planning and Development Partnership
HARRISVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
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 which 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 which 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 which 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 which 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 which 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 which would create about 3,000 housing units in neighborhoods which 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 BOCA 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 which 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 accessible 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 which 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 which 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.

First and foremost is the availability of developable land. The prime value intersection for the entire County is US 22 and PA 26. At present, the largest tract of developable land at this site is in the ownership of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC). This land is presently underutilized in respect to its potential for development. The Department recently transferred a tract of land to Smithfield Township. This Plan recommends a continuation of this policy toward the full transfer of all DOC land south of Route 22 to a local entity.

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. Over time, this list will grow to include 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 landscape of Huntingdon County includes some natural infrastructure. 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. It is envisioned that the greenway concept 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 residing in various forms of specialty and conventional 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 will 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 understored and underserved by national “chain” retailers.

If present trends continue, these national retailers are currently pursuing 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 which were subdivided in the past for residential purposes were never developed. Huntingdon County may have a residue 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 which 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 which could be applied uniformly in the County.
## LAND USE PLAN MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Commercial and Industrial</th>
<th>High- and Medium-Density Residential</th>
<th>Low-Density Residential</th>
<th>Low-Intensity Uses/Conservation</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Park and Open Space</th>
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*Certain low-intensity forms of agriculture only.

*Section III: Analysis and Plan*
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 an elevation change of greater than 25 percent 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 eight 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.

- **Public/Semi-Public Uses** - These are lands and buildings owned by government bodies or non-profits which 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.

- **Agricultural** - 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.

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 which 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.

Public use includes the schools, post-secondary schools, 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 which 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 not be served by public infrastructure, but 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.

It is necessary for the Future Land Use Plan to ensure that adequate room is provided for future development. For uses which 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.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
As the table shows, many hundreds of additional acres are provided to ensure the community can practically accommodate future growth and meet the needs of the private sector.

This does, however, represent a significant departure from the 1979 Comprehensive Plan, which had very different future growth projections.

**SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES**

- Encourage all municipalities to adopt the County Comprehensive Plan by reference, becoming municipal partners.
- Ensure complete coverage of Huntingdon County by Subdivision and Land Development Regulations.
- Ensure there is zoning ordinance coverage of all boroughs in Huntingdon County and select high-growth townships.
- Upgrade the level of zoning and codes administration in Huntingdon County.
- Encourage the preparation of municipal or multi-municipal/ regional Comprehensive Plans as a logical extension of the County Comprehensive Plan.
- Support the use of site-specific real estate tax abatements as a tool to revitalization in urban areas.
Educate local leaders about land use issues and trends, including neo-traditional planning, conservation subdivisions, and other tools.

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

Make inter-municipal compatibility analysis a part of the review standard of municipal comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances.

Pursue a policy of linking existing lands into a cohesive greenway network through additional land acquisition by conservation agencies.

Encourage the integration of steep slope protection standards into local zoning and subdivision regulations.

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

Continue the County Planning Commission’s role as a detailed and professional reviewer for subdivision and land development and zoning and local planning activity.

**SCENARIO 2020**

Huntingdon County has thrived over the past few years through the implementation of its policy of Continuity Through Conservation. The one word which best characterizes Huntingdon County is “diversity.” Because of the scenic atmosphere and rural quality of life, Huntingdon was able to capture some of the most desirable business investments of the early 21st century. It achieved this largely by not replicating the mistakes that had been made in other areas. During the late 20th century, development occurred in other places without adequate planning for traffic flow infrastructure and livability. However, in Huntingdon County, pleasant, high-quality corporate campuses, with a mix of small industries and retail businesses, are concentrated in the area to the east of Mount Union and to the west of Huntingdon Borough. Both of these sectors have a green open atmosphere which blends well with the surrounding landscapes.

Because this development had been concentrated, it was easy to cost-effectively convey infrastructure and to make necessary highway improvements. Also, because large-scale development was largely concentrated in these two areas, many of the small-town areas of the County were able to recapture a strong retail base, while preserving community appearance and fabric. The boroughs of Huntingdon County were able to accomplish this by implementing zoning policies which facilitated small business development, but protected pre-existing development. Many residents flock to the small downtowns for shopping, office employment, or simply to dine out, walk, or enjoy nice days. Very targeted tax abatement policies also insure that some of the fine old buildings are preserved next to high-quality newer ones.

The diversity of the County continues in the area of residential opportunities. Many of the County’s older citizens and young single persons are just starting to take advantage of housing within walking distance of the downtowns. However, there are also successful suburban housing developments from the Broad Top area to Warriors Mark. These areas were planned for water and sewer systems facilitating such medium-density residential neighborhoods in selected areas. Persons desiring greater isolation or very large lots for forestry, hunting, or horse keeping are purchasing 10- to 15-acre tracts in rural areas.

One unique characteristic of Huntingdon County is the high quality of its suburban development. The suburban development of the County is of such a manner that it ties those areas well into both the surrounding countryside and the older urban centers. Some suburban development even replicates and connects the street system of the adjoining boroughs, continuing the pleasant walkable small-town atmosphere. This success is due, in part, to development standards devised through model subdivision regulations, which include the input of developers, local officials, and the citizens who would live in the development.

Agriculture still flourishes in every section of Huntingdon County. Family dairy farms, cash grain operators, and part-time livestock farms are found...
everywhere, well protected by Agricultural Security Areas. There are also growing numbers of stewardship forests, constituting a new form of agriculture in Huntingdon County's long tradition of land-based activities.

Outside the areas where there are substantial concentrations of farming, there is a pleasant mixture of farms, locally owned small businesses, and homes on large lots. This mix thrives because the rural areas do not have high-density development; consequently, the mix does not create conflict as they might in an urban or suburban area.

Finally, the County has a network of greenways which stretches across its bounds in virtually every direction. In some places, these greenways are small buffers, secured by conservation easements, while remaining in private hands. In other cases, they remain privately owned stewardship forests, where it is the owner's option to allow public access. In yet other places, public agencies purchased land. Where this occurred, they were careful to purchase in areas which met the overall greenway concept plan. Through targeted purchasing, it is possible for hikers, hunters, or boaters to cross the entire County while enjoying the variety of landscapes, animals, and plants. Coming full circle, many of the industrial and business developers acknowledge that the network of greenways and outdoor opportunities was a significant factor in their choosing Huntingdon County as a location. Quality of life has become a reality — not just a slogan locally.

In fairness to history, it should be noted it was not the County Comprehensive Plan which created this situation. What the Plan did do was initiate a process where citizens, local leaders, and the business community gathered together to implement a vision of quality and excellence. The Plan was followed by a number of local initiatives which led to some common-sense protective laws: universal subdivision coverage, protective zoning, and building/housing codes. One of the remarkable aspects of these regulations is that they were devised by all sectors of the community to meet local needs without being unduly restrictive. For example, rural residents were comfortable to live under regulations which protected them from large uses, such as landfills, but did not restrict their own small businesses or the keeping of livestock.

However, it would be a mistake to think that the major result of the Plan was new regulations. The major result of the Plan was that it educated the community about the range of future possibilities and initiated a "can-do" attitude. Because the Plan had been a public process from the beginning, it increased the affection of people for their communities and resulted in hundreds of individual actions which were invested in Huntingdon County.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Economic development is not a required part of a comprehensive plan for counties in Pennsylvania. However, for much of rural Pennsylvania, successful planning rests on the ability to sustain the community through a healthy local economy. Residents correctly perceive this as a key issue and consistently rate it among their highest priorities.

I. Summary of Findings:

From the Visioning Sessions and the Quality of Life Survey

A significant percentage of survey respondents (about 7 out of every 10) believe that job opportunities are poor in both the County and their community. A similar number rate high unemployment as the most severe problem in the County.

The attraction of new industry and the expansion of existing businesses were generally regarded as the highest economic development priorities in the survey.

From the Analysis in Continuity Through Conservation II, Phase 1

Economy:

1. The County has a higher percentage of manufacturing workers (25%) than either Pennsylvania or the United States as a whole.

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

3. For the past several decades, unemployment in the County has been higher than the State average, and has often been the highest of any county in the State.

4. The County workforce is characterized as primarily blue collar.

5. Wages paid by area businesses are below average for the State.

6. 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.

2. Despite the consistent acreage of agricultural land over the past decade, the number of farms is decreasing; particularly significant is the loss in the dairy sector.

From the Analysis Since Continuity Through Conservation II, Phase 1

Much of the business infrastructure that retains agricultural dollars in local communities (feed mills, livestock markets, processors, implement dealers) is located outside Huntingdon County.

Employment and Wages: 1988 to 1996: Total employment changed very little in Huntingdon County between 1988 and 1996. In 1988, the County had 11,948 employees covered by unemployment compensation; in 1996, the total was 11,884. Hence, there was a net loss of 64 employees, which was a decrease of about 0.5 percent. During the same period of time, employment in Pennsylvania grew by almost 6.0 percent. These numbers do not include self-employed persons, such as farmers or business owners.

The average wage in 1988 was $16,059. By 1996, this had increased to $22,286. However, the average wage in the Commonwealth in 1988 was $21,325 and in 1996, it was $28,717. In 1988, the average Huntingdon wage was only 75 percent of the State average. By 1996,
the Huntingdon wage had increased to almost 78 percent of the Pennsylvania average. Average wage was 55th among the 67 counties in Pennsylvania in 1988 but had climbed to 46th by 1996.

1. Employment in Manufacturing has declined very substantially in the past nine years in the County. In 1988, there were 3,598 manufacturing jobs in Huntingdon County. In 1996, there were only 2,402. This was a decrease of 1,196 jobs, or about 33 percent.

2. Growth Sectors of the Economy in the last nine years include:
   a. Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities which grew from 294 to 326 employees (10.9%).
   b. Wholesale Trade which increased from 475 to 573 employees (20.6%).
   c. Retail Trade which grew from 1,874 to 1,922 (2.6%).
   d. Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate which saw employment increase from 483 to 504 (4.3%).
   e. Services which had the greatest private-sector increase in total employment; from 2,193 to 2,503 jobs (14.7%).
   f. Local Government which had an increase from 1,228 to 1,435 positions (16.9%).
   g. State Government which, fueled by the increases at the Correctional Institutions, grew from 981 to 1,423 jobs (45.1%).

Note that without the substantial employment gains in the government sector, Huntingdon County would have a very significant loss in total employment.

Agriculture continues to be a major economic activity in Huntingdon County. In 1993, total cash receipts from agriculture were $46,011,000. This is about 1.2 percent of the Pennsylvania total and ranked the County 30th in the Commonwealth. However, the multiplier affect of agriculture is largely absent due to a lack of Ag-related businesses (implement dealers, feed mills, sale barns) within the County.

Tourism is also a contributor to the Huntingdon economy. In 1993, the County generated $17,910,000 in tourism revenues and ranked 46th in the Commonwealth.

Labor Force Statistics: The following information is primarily derived from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing. The unemployment data have been updated through State sources to 1997.

Place of Employment and Journey to Work: There were 17,185 employed residents of the County in 1990. Of this total, 12,060 were employed in Huntingdon County. This was about 70 percent of the total. Huntingdon County is a net exporter of labor. Although there were 17,185 employed residents in Huntingdon County, only 14,531 total persons actually worked in the County, including those who commuted in from other counties. Hence, there was a net export of 2,654 workers.

Educational Attainment: There were 28,598 persons over the age of 25 in Huntingdon County at the time of the 1990 Census. Of this total, 20,362 had at least a high school diploma. This was 71.2 percent compared to over 74.6 percent of all Pennsylvanians over the age of 25. At the very bottom of the educational attainment ladder, 3,393 had less than a ninth grade education; this was 11.9 percent compared to 9.4 percent for the Commonwealth. At the other end of the attainment scale, only 9.4 percent of the relevant population have a college degree or better, compared to 17.4 percent Statewide.

Labor Force Participation: The reported statistic is that only 54.1 percent of persons over the age of 16 are either employed or
seeking employment. This figure is much lower than the 61.5 percent State labor force participation rate and the lowest in the labor shed. When the incarcerated population is removed from the calculations, however, the adjusted labor force participation rate is about 58.9 percent. This figure is much closer to the regional norm.

**Unemployment:** In 1990, there were 784 males and 667 females unemployed in Huntingdon according to the Census. This yielded an unemployment rate of 7.7 percent, which was well above the 5.9 percent reported Statewide. In recent years, the unemployment rate has tended to be among the ten highest in the State. In 1997, the unemployment rate in the County was 10.4 percent, which was the highest in the Commonwealth.

**Retail Trade:** Although data indicates an increase in retail employment, not all the news is good. Every five years the Census Bureau releases its "Economic Series." These examine state and county economies by sector, i.e., manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, etc. The last two publications were 1987 and 1992. A traditional method of measuring the retail vigor of an area is to examine it on both an overall and a per capita basis. Such analysis reveals the following:

1. Between 1987 and 1992, County retail sales increased from $15.5 million to $17.9 million+ 15.5 percent.


3. In 1992, per capita retail sales in Huntingdon County were $4,054, up from $3,509 in 1987.

4. In 1992, per capita retail sales in Pennsylvania were $7,369, up from $5,993 in 1987.

In 1987, Huntingdon County ranked 53rd of Pennsylvania's 67 counties for volume of retail sales. By 1992, it had fallen to 55th, being surpassed by Union and Green Counties.

The conclusion is that retail sales, in the County, are not keeping pace with Statewide growth and a significant portion of potential local retail sales (about $3,000+ per capita annually) is being spent elsewhere. Unfortunately, this pattern is confirmed by sales tax receipts, which give more contemporary figures. County sales tax revenue dropped 18 percent from 1993 to 1997. In that same period, sales tax collections at the State level increased 17.8 percent.

**Personal Income:** There is a bright spot in Huntingdon's economic picture. Between the decennial Census reports, it is difficult to measure household income. However, the State does release Personal Income Tax Statistics. A brief comparison of recent statistics is of interest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERSONAL INCOME TAX STATISTICS</th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>1995</th>
<th>1996</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>17,677</td>
<td>18,657</td>
<td>18,874</td>
<td>+6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair County</td>
<td>13,739</td>
<td>14,379</td>
<td>14,675</td>
<td>+6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon County</td>
<td>15,692</td>
<td>16,226</td>
<td>17,079</td>
<td>+8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mifflin County</td>
<td>14,709</td>
<td>15,425</td>
<td>15,294</td>
<td>+3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre County</td>
<td>17,757</td>
<td>18,015</td>
<td>18,632</td>
<td>+5.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Thus, it appears the County is enjoying some increase in income. It is also clear that the wages of those who do work are above average for the region and growing at an encouraging rate.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
ANALYSIS AND PLAN

Huntingdon County has had some real successes in attracting industrial relocations, but the success stories are not well known to the public. Though manufacturing employment did decline, it remains a significant endeavor in the County (more so than some comparable counties).

The general public still defines economic development primarily as new jobs through industrial relocations. Tourism and retail are not regarded as “real” economic activities. Yet, much Statewide and national economic growth has come through such non-manufacturing sectors.

Much economic investment has been concentrated in the Route 22 and 522 corridors. This has been a natural relationship of the local economy to the existing highway system. However, areas to the extreme south and north of the County have seen little or no such development. These areas have remained dependent upon a greatly weakened extractive industry economy, agriculture, tourism or have developed into bedroom communities.

Retail sales are falling in proportion to the State, and much of the County’s consumer spending is being done elsewhere.

Personal income, measured by the State, is relatively good compared to nearby counties. Its growth, over the past three years, has been vigorous.

Perhaps most important is that the economic policies of Huntingdon County be understood, examined, and pursued within the context of the County’s land use situation. As illustrated in the map of Development Constraints, Huntingdon County simply does not have large areas eminently suitable for intensive job and wealth-creating development. This makes it absolutely imperative that what sites are available be secured for those forms of development which will bring high-quality impacts to the community. Whether for industrial, office, or retail development, sites in Huntingdon County should be the result of well-planned and intensive public/private partnerships.

Finally, the analysis illustrates that Huntingdon County’s economy, like every local economy, is actually a complex web of many activities. The foremost aspect of such a Comprehensive Plan should be striving for balance. For example, a good and efficient transportation system is crucial to a community. However, if all roads in a community were four-lane limited access, it would have a negative affect on property values, quality of life, and safety. There must be a balance between all aspects of planning — the economic, the social, and the natural environment upon which we depend. The ideal in planning is that the community can have “it all”: good jobs, high quality of life, and safe, friendly, liveable communities.

The key to success for the County’s future is understanding how different sectors of the economy interact, and “plugging the leaks” by ensuring that dollars that enter the County from the outside circulate within local communities as long as possible. There are four major sectors present in Huntingdon County:

- Natural Resource Sectors (agriculture/forest products/mining)
- The Manufacturing Sector
- The Retail/Service Sector
- Tourism

Each must be analyzed as a part of the greater whole.

1. The Natural Resource Sectors

- Agriculture

Agriculture is important to Huntingdon County in terms of the value of capital (over $136 million), the spending of farmers in the County, and the fact that traditional farming creates landscapes which contribute to quality of life. However, this is a sector which is very vulnerable to economic cycles.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
If agriculture is to be a favored land use in Huntingdon County over the next ten years, then family farms must be economically viable. It is recommended that agriculture be made a full player in Huntingdon County’s economic policies. Central to this is the reactivation of some form of Countywide Agricultural Development Council, in concert with Huntingdon County Business and Industry. The priority of this initiative should be simply increasing the economic multiplier effect of local agriculture through development of value added, support, and Ag service businesses, thereby ensuring family farms will survive.

A problem in this process in the past has been low levels of interest by the farmers themselves. One factor which may change this would be the development of a purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements Program in the County. If this program is presented as a public initiative to help the farm community, the publicity can help raise awareness about the need for a more holistic approach to farm-based economic development.

This Council should investigate a number of initial projects:

- Finding ways for farmers to sell to Huntingdon County businesses, individuals, and institutions. Commodity prices are low, but this is seldom reflected in consumer food prices. If producers can sell directly, they can recoup at least some of the profits which normally go to shippers and wholesalers. The most immediate opportunity would lie in sales to local institutions, such as Juniata College and the two SCI facilities.

- Building up agricultural support businesses. Agriculture cannot thrive without access to implement dealers, feed mills, and livestock auctions. There currently seems to be few of these businesses within the community. Ways should be sought to meet these needs locally.

- Recruiting and supporting young farmers. The average age of farmers across Pennsylvania is alarmingly high. Yet, it is exceedingly difficult for young people to afford to enter agriculture. Solutions may range from loans to innovative solutions such as share milking, a New Zealand concept where employees of dairies gradually gain equity.

Beyond these three needs, the Council should continue to find real projects to keep local agriculture profitable at a family farm scale.

Other resource-based endeavors have and will continue to be an important part of Huntingdon’s economy. The major activities include timber harvesting and mineral extraction. Historically, these activities have sometimes seen environmental conflict. But, in recent years, State regulations have minimized such problems. Given the importance of these activities, they must be protected.

New opportunities must also be found. One way to minimize conflict is to reopen places already mined. Very often, unrestored mines predate reclamation laws. In addition to being unreclaimed, they were not efficiently mined. The Commonwealth now encourages re-mining in its permitting process. It is a good policy for the County and municipalities as well.

Overall, mineral extraction is a very capital-intensive business. Entities are seldom locally owned, and are vulnerable to the machinations of global markets. Wood products, however, can be less capital-intensive and can provide more direct benefit to local landowners and small businesses.

The Commonwealth and many economic development agencies across Pennsylvania have attempted with varying success to target...
forest products sectors for various economic initiatives. Rather than attempt to entice capital-intensive business relocation, Huntingdon County should attempt its program as a grassroots endeavor.

One aspect of local forests is the presence of many low-value softwoods. At present, the only major market for softwood conifers in Pennsylvania is pulpwood. However, much of the major softwood pulp milling infrastructure is located in other regions of the United States. For many forest landowners, timber cutters, and haulers, the cost of cutting and shipping to distant mills is simply not a paying proposition.

The second use for softwoods is in framing lumber. Again, the major milling facilities are located too distant for economical shipping of raw logs. However, framing lumber infrastructure is not as capital-intensive as pulp. It may be possible to develop framing lumber infrastructure to meet local builders' needs within the County.

II. Industrial Sector: Industrial development represents a real success story in Huntingdon County. However, the successes are not well known to the average citizen. It is recommended that a vigorous campaign be conducted cooperatively by the County and Huntingdon County Business and Industry to publicize data such as the following:

- Personal income in Huntingdon County rose 8.9 percent from 1994 to 1996; a rate exceeding both neighboring counties and the Commonwealth as a whole.

- When compared to all counties for Pennsylvania, Huntingdon County's average wages rose from 55th in 1988 to 46th in 1996.

- The largest industrial relocation in Pennsylvania in 1996, Berg Electronics (now FCI Electronics), chose Huntingdon County. This industry now employs approximately 600 persons.

- Manufacturing employment (traditionally the source of the highest wages) remains a stronger part of the local economy than in either Pennsylvania or the United States.

The main recommendation for this sector is thus, to "stay the course." The County should continue to provide sites, market itself, and remain attentive to the needs of existing industries, which is what it has been doing. No major policy changes are recommended in this area.

The only change which will be significant to Huntingdon County in this sector will be the continuing rural rebound in demographics, as many entrepreneurs are consciously choosing rural and small-town locales for business locations, because of quality residential considerations. Two major factors seem to influence these locational decisions: reasonable proximity to metro areas and recreational opportunities, low crime, educational facilities, and attractive townscapes and landscapes.

Since this one major situational change is likely to be beneficial, Huntingdon County must analyze how it can continue to improve in the basic economic development activities of providing sites/access to capital, marketing the communities and providing services to the existing business community.

As mentioned previously, sites will be a crucial element of economic development. If the few prime sites are occupied by secondary, low quality, or undesirable activities, the best development may bypass the County completely. Site control and site planning are essential. This was the main factor in the success of the Riverview Business Park. The same approach originally led to the development of the Huntingdon County Industrial Park years ago. While Riverview is very recent, it may be worthwhile to re-examine the Huntingdon site. There are presently vacant or underutilized buildings within the park. The area surrounding the park is a mixture of heavy commercial, residential, and other uses. Many of the residential units are showing signs of deterioration and disinvestment.
It is recommended that Huntingdon County pursue an aggressive policy to retrofit and rehabilitate the Huntingdon County Industrial Park. At present, the number of major plant closings and layoffs may make the County eligible for Federal funding to plan, market, and make physical improvements (U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Title IX, Sudden and Severe Economic Dislocation). Such a program should examine retrofit of existing buildings, purchase, and redevelopment of neighboring properties and a general "facelift" for the park.

After the Riverview Business Park, perhaps the best site for commercial and light industrial or office development in Huntingdon County is the land currently owned by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, south of Route 22 and west of Route 26. This land is currently underutilized, considering its strategic location. As mentioned in the Land Use Plan, it is recommended that this land be made available for community purposes through a request to the Commonwealth. Even before this is accomplished, an approach for attracting and negotiating with developers will be needed. Some of the issues which must be integrated into this process are an analysis of net jobs gained and impact fees versus tax abatements.

If the public is partially subsidizing new development through an entity such as Huntingdon County Business and Industry, Inc., or a township government, there is a responsibility to ensure that new development does not endanger the viability of an existing citizen or taxpayer. Net jobs gained is simply a tool to ensure that new development really grows the local economy, rather than shifting it. For example, if a local municipality buys land, improves it, and runs utilities to a site, it has subsidized new development. If the new development is a shoe store which causes a pre-existing shoe store to close, the new jobs and wealth created do not improve the overall economy. In fact, a dis-service has been done to the pre-existing business. This is not to say that competition should be prevented. A new shoe store should be free to buy and improve their own site without public subsidy.

Aggressive Use of Economic Development Tools: To date, most of the public subsidies in Huntingdon County have been through land acquisition and site improvements. Once a net jobs gained analysis is complete, the community can decide whether to further subsidize the development or, if the development should pay for its impact upon the community. To pursue its economic policies, Huntingdon County should develop a full range of tools to link its future development to implement this. Pennsylvania has devised the legal mechanism for principal subsidy or impact assessment tools. Subsidies include tax incremental financing, Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA), and the Residential Encouragement Tax Assistance Program (RETAP). The impact assessment is officially known as Municipal Capital Improvements under the PaMPC.

Tax incremental financing, commonly known as TIF, is simply the pledging of future tax revenues to finance current capital development projects. An example can help illustrate this. A commercial development is expected to generate $20,000 per year in tax revenues to the municipality, but in order to make road, water, and sewer improvements host that development, it will be necessary to spend $100,000. The community can prepare TIF financing which applies the revenues from the new development directly to improvements necessary to support the tax base improvement. In Pennsylvania, tax incremental financing is most commonly utilized as a part of a negotiating process with individual developers.

Unlike TIF, local economic revitalization tax assistance, known commonly as LERTA, is typically a benefit which runs with a particular site. LERTA was begun in Pennsylvania in 1977 to allow communities which had significant deterioration or economic difficulties to abate taxes for new development, wholly or partially for a period of ten years. The amount and extent of this benefit is wholly a local decision. Some very deteriorated communities have enacted LERTA Ordinances which cover any commercial or industrial development for a period of five years for abatement of all county, municipal, and school taxes. Other communities apply it only to specific sites and provide abatement in year one, 90 percent abatement in year two, down through a ten-year period, after which all taxes would be paid.

The key to understanding LERTA is that the abatements only apply to improvements to the property. For example, if a commercial development purchased a site in which the annual taxes are $1,000 a year and they put

Section III: Analysis and Plan
a substantial improvement on that, the $1,000 per year of taxes would still be paid. Only the taxes on the buildings and improvements would be subject to abatement. Thus, the community does not lose current revenue. They simply do not see immediate revenue from the improvements made. LERTA, in spite of its origin as a tool of distressed communities, has become something many developers simply expect. This does not mean that the community cannot use it as a negotiating point. A LERTA Ordinance could be passed by any of the three taxing bodies after arrangements have been made with the developer. However, such an approach would necessitate a real understanding of LERTA as a tool by a municipal government, county government, and school district government.

RETAP is simply a residential equivalent of the LERTA Program. Its precepts are virtually identical, with the exception that the maximum rather than the ten years is set at five years.

On the other side, impact fees are regulated by the Municipal Capital Improvements section of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The Code empowers communities to enact impact fee ordinances to recoup the cost of new development relative to such issues as road size incapacity and road wear. Very simply, the Code allows communities to require developers to pay for improvements which must be made to ensure that the township, borough, or city road system is safe and has sufficient capacity to carry the anticipated number of vehicles.

However, the Code also permits communities to provide credits for up to 100 percent of the applicable impact fees, where the community determines that the new development serves an overriding public interest or is defined as “de minimus” by the ordinance. There seems to be no reason an overriding public interest could not include the net growth of jobs, and there is no reason that the de minimus could not exclude small developments from paying impact fees.

The key to impact fees in Pennsylvania is understanding that there must be a direct relationship between the fees charged, the nature of the improvements, and the utilization of monies paid for those improvements. The pre-requisite for doing impact fees is sound planning. Prior to impact fees, communities must conduct planning studies to show the anticipated growth and anticipated real impact of various forms of development.

This tool has not been commonly used in rural Pennsylvania, but should be understood within the context of those sites in Huntingdon County which could attract significant intense development.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the best form of site control is ownership. There are many limits upon the powers of municipalities to regulate land use. However, there are almost no limits on the ability of public or private individuals who actually own land from attaching deed covenants prior to selling. These covenants typically run in perpetuity unless they can be shown to have outlived their usefulness and no longer serve a legitimate purpose. Covenants could regulate the type of business, the physical appearance of the development, or elements of size and intensity far beyond what may be done through zoning and development regulation.

Just as a private developer may require all homes built in a development he has established to be built with brick veneer, so can a community, through deed covenants, regulate how land will be utilized within the said development. However, this is a function of ownership, not general government powers.

At this point in time, no one particular tool is recommended. What is recommended is that the County, its communities, and Huntingdon County Business and Industry begin a process to examine how these tools might best be applied and integrate it into a site planning process, which will benefit both new developers and Huntingdon County.

As unemployment continues to be low across much of Pennsylvania, Huntingdon County’s labor surplus becomes an asset. This is especially true if labor skills are upgraded through training.

As mentioned in the Background Analysis, Huntingdon County has higher rates of non-high school graduates and few college graduates in its workforce. There can be little doubt that many of the underemployed and unemployed in the County lack the educational attainment which is a pre-
requisite for many jobs. In the current economic climate, these persons should be viewed as a significant asset — if their levels of job skills, technical training, and education can be upgraded. There are probably about 2,000 County residents who could significantly benefit from such an upgrade.

It is recommended that a partnership be explored locally to develop closer ties among HCB&I, Juniata College, DuBois Business College, and local employment and welfare agencies. The program should have these components:

1. Identifying candidates
2. Developing a training curriculum which meets real business needs.
3. Funding the training.

It must be emphasized that this must be a flexible program — not a replication of training already available.

As the skills of the local workforce are being built, Huntingdon County must also monitor the infrastructure which will be needed to support information-age businesses. As a part of its self-evaluation process, the County should develop a series of indicators to ensure that though rural, the technological infrastructure is sufficient.

A first step in this direction would be an in-depth analysis of the Technology Atlas for a New Pennsylvania, compiled by the Commonwealth. Some key indicators include: satellite connections, ISDN, cable data, and video conferencing; all of which are present in Huntingdon County. Huntingdon is also strategically located in reference to network transmission lines, as State College is the major hub in central Pennsylvania.

III. Retail-Service-Tourism: This represents an area where local performance has not kept pace with the Commonwealth or the nation. Such development may come over the next few years, but it must not be simply a “moving of the deck chairs,” where businesses coming into the community only take a market share from those already here. A number of local initiatives can ensure that new businesses provide real development and real net gain.

- Retail:
  - A quick analysis of the Census of Retail Trade, coupled with responses to the Quality of Life Survey, demonstrates many local residents are shopping outside Huntingdon County. This loss of retail trade is known as leakage. One possible answer is to make low-cost capital available to qualified entrepreneurs who wish to initiate feasible retail operations.
  - Where there is fairly complete control of land, such as the HCB&I land or prison land being transferred to the community, local decision makers must be somewhat selective. As prospects or proposals are being evaluated, the process must include some form of economic impact analysis.
  - As the area lacks “big-box” mega retailers, that arena must be considered locally. Given the market forces, one or more such businesses will select the County as a location. If such a development can be guided toward publically controlled lands or be enticed via financial incentives, it will be possible to capitalize and control such locations. The strategy should be one of complementary existing local business, and to minimize negative competition.
  - Huntingdon County should undertake a significant “buy-local” campaign to support existing local businesses. This must be carefully constructed to first illustrate that there really is some local opportunity. This effort can include illustrations of local businesses who care about the community, with the real savings of time and money made by making purchases close to home.
Access to capital is a perennial need for retail and services businesses. The difference between new business success and development is often the local availability of below-market, community-based loans. Huntingdon County has a County-initiated program and a loan program through HCB&I. The County program should be transferred to HCB&I administration and be structured as two tiers of assistance.

1. A micro business program to loan money to retail/service businesses involving 1 or 2 employees. A typical loan might be in the $5,000 to $50,000 range.

2. A small business program to assist existing or partially capitalized small businesses with capital needs of more than $50,000.

A key to this approach is that it invests in people who have already made a commitment to Huntingdon County. Building the economy internally is generally much more cost-effective than attempting to attract outside employers.

No where is this need for internal business development more pronounced than the Broad Top regions in southern Huntingdon County. Due almost wholly to its unique geography, the Broad Top region has a wealth of developable sites which are simply inaccessible from a commercial/industrial development standpoint. Perhaps through a keen recognition of its lack of opportunity through isolation, the human community of the Broad Top has responded with enthusiasm and action for community-based efforts which are unprecedented in rural Pennsylvania.

These vigorous steps should be assisted by the County through technical assistance to develop a stronger local economy. The best recommendation in this regard is an education process, such as the Rocky Mountain Institute’s economic revitalization program. This program teaches communities with little hope of attracting significant outside development to close up gaps within their own small economy and create micro-opportunities to bring the largest degree of prosperity possible.

The County should implement this approach through sponsoring some local economic renewal efforts, based upon natural, inter-municipal market areas. The results of these should be processes — not documents.

It must, again, be emphasized that this process should not produce a planning document. It should capitalize on the enthusiasm of people and emphasize practical self-help activities. The strength of community on the Broad Top is such that with the additional help of outside resources, it would become a model for much of the rest of rural Huntingdon County and all of rural Pennsylvania.

• Tourism:
  - Greater spinoff activity and further linkages must be established to capture a greater share of tourism dollars. This will entail a number of expanded facilities. The County should be an active partner in a number of projects, including:
    - A full-service family resort at Raystown Lake
    - Expanded attractions at the Broad Top Coal Miners’ Museum
    - A farm museum at Raystown
    - Complete restoration of the EBT.

• Service:
  - Health services are key to the Service sector. Continued liaison with the J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital is a must to keep that organization vigorous.
  - The FIRE (Finance, Insurance, Real Estate) sector is another key player in the County’s economy. Much of this sector is found in the Huntingdon Borough area. This is a particularly “foot-loose” sector; and, once more, continued liaison between it, the HCB&I, and the County is recommended.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

• Develop a special program to support the development of more agriculture-supported businesses.

• Create new farmer markets or target direct sell farm product outlets in Huntingdon County.

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

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

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

• Lobby for the release of additional unused Department of Corrections land south of Route 22.

• Accelerate efforts to establish a full-service resort and conference center at Raystown Lake.

• Accelerate establishment of a historical living farm museum at Raystown Lake.

• Support implementing the EBT Full-Steam Ahead report.

• Educate local officials in urban areas about tax abatement ordinances to encourage redevelopment.

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

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

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

SCENARIO 2020

As Huntingdon Countians look back over the past decade, they fondly remember these recent years of prosperity. Unlike previous periods of boom and bust, this decade was one in which all economic sectors exhibited continuous high levels of economic activity. Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment also appear to be a thing of the past. According to a recent survey of local employers, the reasons for locating or expanding in the area are:

• The quality and training of the local workforce.

• To take advantage of local sector opportunities, such as agribusiness or the burgeoning dimension lumber industry.

• To enjoy the community's high quality of life, especially the small-town environment and abundant natural resources.

• The professionalism of the county's economic development team.

The big surprise to economic analysts is the farm sector. While levels of agricultural production were about the same, receipts per acre were among the highest in Pennsylvania. Net profits are also excellent. This may be attributable to the efforts of the Huntingdon County Agricultural Development Council. The Council has been able to sell milk, meat, and other products to major local institutions. The new milk plant and meat packing plant, which created 60 jobs in the Huntingdon Industrial Park, are largely supported by this marketing effort.

Recent business activity has been focused in three locations: the twenty-year old Riverview Business Center, the refurbished Huntingdon Industrial Park, and the new Smithfield Commons. Smithfield Commons is a high-quality campus-like business park located at the junction of U.S. 22 and PA 26. While Riverview Business Center and Huntingdon Industrial Park are
largely occupied by manufacturing business, Smithfield Commons contains retail shopping, service and wholesale businesses.

Retail business has regained some of the strength lost to urban centers of Altoona and State College in the 20th century. At that time only $0.60 of every retail dollar was spent in the County. Now for every retail dollar spent by local residents, $0.90 is spent in Huntingdon County. This resurgence has been spurred by the new 20-store Smithfield Commons Shopping Center. Tourism and strong local patronage have supported the small shops which have sprung up in downtown historic districts throughout the County.

Heritage tourism, boating, fishing, hunting, camping, and hiking continue to draw visitors to the County. These visitors spend over $10,000,000 each year on retail purchases in the County. New facilities such as the East Broad Top Railroad Visitors Center and the Raystown Lake Amphitheater draw new visitors to the area.

Key agents of change over the past twenty years have been the "big three" development agencies: Huntingdon County Tourist Bureau, The Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce, and Huntingdon County Business and Industry. These private agencies, together with the County and local government, promote and market, sell and develop, and provide support services to business within the County. They offer low-interest loans and business planning services to expanding businesses.

As planners and economic analysts begin working on the next edition of the County Comprehensive Plan (Continuity Through Conservation IV), their preliminary analysis shows the diversity of the Huntingdon County economy makes it as recession proof as practically possible.
The Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan is actually titled *Continuity Through Conservation*. The definition of conservation in this case refers to the appropriate or measured use of all resources in the County (human, economic, and natural). Every resident of Huntingdon County is aware of the community’s wealth of natural resources, which range from scenic views to silica. To assure the continuity of the human community, Huntingdon Countians must plan for the measured use and stewardship of these blessings.

I. Summary of Findings:

A. From the Analysis in *Continuity Through Conservation II*:

*Environmental Conservation:*

a. A large percentage of the County is environmentally sensitive by virtue of steep slope and floodplain areas (46.4%).

b. The large forest acreage of the County, (71%) provides excellent watershed protection as well as habitat for wildlife.

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

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

e. The County’s groundwater resources are vulnerable to pollution, particularly in those areas with carbonate geology.

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

B. From Citizen and Local Leader Opinions Expressed in the Survey and Visioning Sessions: A great majority of survey respondents (75+%%) rate the natural environment of Huntingdon County as good to excellent. A similar percentage (73%) rated their own community’s environment excellent as well.

Twenty-eight percent (28%) of respondents choose to live in Huntingdon County because of the outdoors.

Survey respondents listed stormwater runoff, illegal trash dumping, and loss of agricultural lands as their most significant environmental problems. However, environmental problems were not rated as serious as high unemployment and property taxes.

Generally, the survey respondents greatest environmental conservation concerns were related to the land use related issues of protecting open space, especially agricultural lands.

In open-ended visioning sessions, in various regions, comprised of a wide cross-section of people, the beauty and quality of that natural environment was uniformly the first strength mentioned, and consistently rated highly. Perhaps the most telling aspect of citizen concern about environmental conservation was in the interest and high attendance at the mini-conference on land use and the environment. This was the best attended meeting during the entire planning process.

The visioning sessions also identified a number specific environmental concerns:

- Possibility of pollution from new agricultural practices (such as confined feeding operations) or new industries, attracted perhaps by a lack of local controls.
> Lack of public water and especially sewer, particularly in small urban places, such as Birmingham, Coalmont, Dudley, and Shirleysburg.

> Loss of traditional family farms due to economic conditions.

> Illegal trash dumping.

> Flood control (along Shoup Run in the Broad Top area).

C. From the Analysis Since the Completion of Continuity Through Conservation II: Planners and local leaders are only now starting to understand the real economic value of wild lands, open space, and wildlife. It is now being recognized as a direct impact (through recreation and tourism dollars) and a significant factor in creating a quality business climate.

In simple terms, the forested hillsides, clean streams, and scenic vistas of Huntingdon County are more than window dressing — they have a measurable economic value. This can be seen through the example of local wildlife and its value. For example, about 9,200 deer are harvested in Huntingdon County each year. There are probably 36,000 hunters taking to the woods to hunt these deer. This is based upon the Game Commission’s estimate of hunters in the woods per deer harvested. The total licenses sold in the County are 6,200 (but this may include non-County residents). However, it might be safe to assume that 25,000 hunters are coming to hunt from outside the County. Each year, these hunters are spending an estimated $2,000,000 on lodging alone. Sportfishing, a beneficial result of clean water, also has a measurable impact. The Pennsylvania Fish Commission sells about 1,000 three-day tourist fishing licenses in Huntingdon County each year. Only four counties in Pennsylvania have higher sales of this license (Erie, Monroe, Pike, and Wayne). What is the economic impact of 1,000 anglers over three days? Probably about $200,000 for food, bait, lodging, and gas alone. This does not include the impact of the other 7,000 license buyers in the County.

These rough estimates give some idea of the enormous impact of sportsman’s spending. The major point is — without the natural resource (in this case wildlife), this impact would not occur.

Another example is found in the forests of Huntingdon County. The present value of all the forest trees in the County for timber, pulp, and firewood is probably about $150,000,000. However, timber prices are expected to rise. When this is compared to the growth of the tree fiber, a tree growing in a managed forest is equal to, or better than, accrued interest in a savings account. This does not include the value of trees for air filtration, flood prevention, and erosion control. Dependent on the accounting system used, the value of local forests as natural infrastructure may exceed its value as timber.

It is clear from the analysis that humans in Huntingdon County are dependent upon the natural systems for their livelihood, safety, and quality of life. This Plan, thus, proposes ways in which human economic needs can be met while still protecting farmland, forest land, natural resources, and the environment. As Governor Ridge has often stated, it is not a question of jobs versus the environment, the right question is how to have a healthy economy and a healthy environment.

In this approach, where the needs of the economy and the environment receive equal priority, the Land Use Plan is the vehicle to assure such possibilities.

In its endorsement of the centers concept, the Land Use Plan allows the activation of the Conservation Plan. As discussed in the Land Use Plan, the centers concept is designed to encourage financial reinvestment in areas which have already seen historic investment. The reason for this is that it allows the infrastructure, which has already been built, to continue to serve the people of Huntingdon. This is simply much cheaper than attempting to replicate it elsewhere.
For the rural areas of Huntingdon outside those centers, the primary infrastructure is the natural systems (water flow, forests, etc.). A local example can help illustrate this. Due to the density of development and significant public investment in Huntingdon Borough, along the Juniata River in Huntingdon Borough are a number of manmade flood-control structures and manmade fill. This is an absolute necessity in the Borough to protect public safety and property. However, it is also a very expensive solution which only becomes feasible when high density of development is reached. In a rural area where such structures are simply unaffordable, natural systems of water retention, such as forested slopes, stream banks, and wetlands, must remain intact enough to protect public safety and property.

ANALYSIS AND PLAN

Thus, the Environmental Conservation Plan must be the vehicle to assure sound planning for areas of Huntingdon County which will lie outside the growth centers where “green infrastructure” remains. The attached Natural Resources Plan Map focuses on how activities outside the centers can best protect and wisely use land. The Plan envisions a continuation of private ownership in many of these areas, so public lands are not depicted. The objectives of the Natural Resources Plan are simply to assure that rural areas receive similar attention as urban ones and are simply not written off as vacant areas. This will require utilization of a wide range of tools, including:

- Education about the importance and value of local natural resources.
- Purchase of land, either through complete public ownership or purchase of conservation easements. (A purchase of partial property - i.e., the right to use the property in certain manner.)
- Regulation to prevent the misuse of land or resources to the extent that they would jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of neighboring properties or whole communities.
- Citizen involvement: This is simply the residents of a community working to correct problems or preserve assets. For example, many citizen groups have dealt with illegal trash dumping by cleaning up the dumps.
- Subsidy: A subsidy is a public payment to a property owner for a conservation practice. For example, there are reduced property taxes for conservation/agricultural uses.

I. Education cannot be overlooked as a tool. Huntingdon County should undertake a wide spectrum approach to conservation education which will reach rural landowners, the development community, municipal officials, and citizens.

The Environmental Advisory Board should become a partner in Plan implementation. Initially, this could be done by emphasizing open space in the potential DCNR-funded Plan (see Recreation - Community Facilities Summary). The Board should be given resources through technical assistance and some financing to conduct education on:

- Assisting landowners to realize financial benefits for conservation uses of their land, such as hunting leases, and the practice of sustainable forestry.
- Providing information to the general public on the multi-million dollar impact of wildlife and forests in the County.
- Building meaningful partnerships with businesses and organizations which have a substantial stake in environmental conservation (sporting goods businesses, sportsman’s organizations).

Huntingdon County must provide developers and municipal governments with better models for conservation subdivisions and rural residential development which can meet both financial and environmental goals. The basic need is for integrating development into the existing environment.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
• Sponsor a “Growing Greener” workshop, targeting significant participation by builders, realtors, and design professionals.

• Prepare a conservation subdivision model for inclusion in subdivision regulations.

• Prepare a similar model for zoning.

• Consider offering County real estate tax abatement to the first such development. (RETAP, Act 42 of 1977)

There is also a need to educate municipalities about the real cost benefit ratios of various forms of development.

Across Pennsylvania, the actual impacts of development in townships have been studied. For farm and woodland, the cost of community services is about 7½ cents to every tax dollar paid. Residential developments require $1.27 worth of services per dollar generated. Commercial/industrial development cost 10 to 14 cents per dollar generated. The key for planning is to not allow intensive residential development too far from community facilities, and keep some open/farm land in every municipality.

Education can also include simply gathering more information about local resources and sharing that information. At present, there is no Countywide inventory of the area’s natural heritage. This should be completed. There is also little concrete knowledge about the recharge areas of public water wellheads. For resources which are known, further education can be accomplished through progress such as the Scenic Rivers designation.

II. Regulation: Regulation is perhaps the most controversial area of conservation planning. In the case of Huntingdon County, regulations must be accompanied by education. Specifically, the entire community of citizens and property owners must see a direct correlation between the regulations and the protection of health, safety, and property. For example, a regulation to limit steep slope development could be misinterpreted as simply, keep pretty green hills. Until it is understood that those pretty green hills prevent property damage and loss of water quality by holding soil and storm water, there is real potential that regulatory measures will be met with resistance by residents.

This relates again to the role of the County mentioned in the Land Use Plan. The County with its professionally trained staff is key in communicating the link between conservation regulations and the protection of the community. It is also the County’s role to assist in reviewing and sometimes drafting regulations which will provide protection, still offer options to property owners, and be legally defensible.

Specific areas where model regulation text would be of assistance include:

• Tree preservation in the context of land development. In addition to the value of trees for conservation purposes and forestry, wooded lots and forested developments command premium prices. Inventories of trees can be a plan requirement in the review process and ordinances can either require minimum tree cover, remain on slopes, all non-buildable areas, as buffers, or grant density bonuses for preservation.

• Steep slope protection is an absolute necessity in Huntingdon County. This should address lot densities, road building, and all land development activities. This can, and should, be integrated into both subdivision and land development ordinances in the County. Related closely to the issue of steep slopes is the nature of other geologic limitations in Huntingdon County. For example, some ridge tops in the County have very limited groundwater resources. High densities of development will overtax this limited resource and pumping public water to a ridge top is an exorbitant expense. Unfortunately, the nature of groundwater resources is not as discernable as steep slopes. The County can be of service in this case by conducting a study of water supply and preparing a plan which would allow communities to make defensible decisions about the density of development where water supplies will be on-lot.

• The streams of Huntingdon County are fed by a mixture of stormwater and groundwater. If the streams are fed quickly,
flooding results, typically accompanied by sedimentation which can destroy valuable fisheries. The cheapest and easiest way to prevent this is by leaving stream-side buffers intact and allow the plants and trees to absorb and clarify the runoff. Model text should be prepared which integrates the size of such a buffer directly into the adjacent slope as a part of lot and yard regulations. While this can be done through zoning or subdivision regulations, it could also be integrated into existing floodplain ordinances.

- One area where purely scenic criteria might be defensible is the area of billboards or off-site signs. It is probably not defensible to ban this use, but off-site signs can be equally effective without marring the viewsheds which are a significant tourism resource.

- Finally, it must be recommended that the agricultural, forestry, and other low-intensity areas of Huntingdon County can only be retained if they are valuable for traditional rural uses (hunting, livestock keeping, forestry, etc.). The purpose of the regulations should be to protect rural areas from densities and intensities of development which would require expensive man-made infrastructure to replace the cheap green infrastructure. Regulations should never inhibit traditional activities which contribute to sustainable land-based wealth.

One way to ensure this type of protective regulation is through Agricultural Security Areas (ASAs). ASAs are covenants between the local government and farm or forest landowners. As their part of the covenant, the Township agrees not to pass regulations which would inhibit normal farming practices. There are a number of ASAs in Huntingdon County, but more participation in this program is recommended. The Natural Resource Plan Map depicts some areas where Agricultural Security Areas could be especially viable.

It should be the policy of the County to also examine existing regulations. Every flood-prone community in the County has adopted floodplain regulations. However, it is not known if they are actually implemented.

- In addition to suggested regulations, the County should consider a Storm Water Management Plan. Long required by the State, this approach would eventually provide for the regulation of storm-water runoff.

III. Purchase: There is no doubt that the best way to secure land for conservation purposes is to own it. However, this does not need to be complete fee-simple ownership. A number of approaches have been devised to permit the purchase of only an easement or the right to develop. This works in a similar fashion to selling a right-of-way or mineral rights. The advantage of this approach is that land can still be productive for its traditional purposes. For example, if a farmer sells his development rights to a county Agricultural Security Board, he can still use the land for its current use. He can even change the use, such as converting a field to a pasture, orchard, or woodlot. It simply cannot be developed for residential or commercial purposes. In the case of agricultural conservation easements, the County would need to form its own board to be eligible for State and Federal matching funds. In other cases, there is an existing network.

Huntingdon County and its communities must cooperate pro-actively with the existing local land trust entities (Southern Alleghenies Conservancy and Central Pennsylvania Conservancy). There is an active need to buy land for conservation. Acquisitions should be planned as followed:

- Assist smaller entities such as “Save Our Steps” in administration purposes for their acquisition projects.

- Receive donations to lease riparian buffer land at the prevailing rate of farmland rental (coupled with education on how this works).

- Accept donated conservation easements to ease the inheritance tax burden of rural landowners.

- In some cases, where public access is desired, fee-simple purchase can be a usable tool as well. This can be accomplished by the aforementioned non-profit entities, but can also be a part of
municipal and County policy. The County should work with municipalities to buy land for sustainable forestry as a long-term public investment. This is permitted by all municipal codes in Pennsylvania. Because municipalities exist for the long-term and pay no property tax, municipal forests are very profitable for small communities.

Work with State and Federal public agencies to develop land management plans which will result in the preservation of large corridors for wildlife habitat.

If Federal and State purchases can be made in a coordinated fashion, and combined with municipal and non-profit efforts, it will be possible to create the network of greenways, illustrated in the Concept Plan. The specific choice of easement versus fee-simple purchase should be based upon the purpose of the purchase. If the purchase is for public access, fee-simple should be used. If the purchase is for preventing erosion or preserving farmland, easements are more appropriate.

IV. Subsidy: The main subsidy essential to Plan implementation is the support of public infrastructure in the town areas of the County. If communities bear some of the cost of getting infrastructure to designated growth areas, it will choose those areas.

Subsidies can also fulfill an educational purpose. Many of Huntingdon County’s woodlands are in private hands and will remain so. There is a real danger that owners will manage these resources without the assistance of professional foresters, losing both income and conservation values. Pennsylvania has a Stewardship Forestry Program and support is also available from the American Tree Farm system to subsidize the initial cost of a forester for private landowners. Local professionals believe participation in these programs is lower in Huntingdon County than many other places in Pennsylvania. This is something that County promotion could yield real conservation results. The presence of the Eden Hill Conservancy and the related Irish Pines Tree Farm is a good starting point for such efforts.

V. Direct Involvement: Citizens are actively becoming involved in a number of watershed organizations. These entities must become full Plan partners. The County should attempt to foster the creation of more watershed groups. A second area of direct involvement is linking sensible conservation to economies. Energy conservation is not a hot issue when fuel prices are low, but long-term management and good stewardship of public dollars warrants some attention before another inevitable price rise. Energy-efficient technology can save Huntingdon County money. The first step is a simple energy audit, followed by an action plan.

Other forms involve simply continuing current activities in a more conservation-oriented fashion. A major example of this is the promotion of re-mining in Huntingdon County. Mining has long been an important and essential part of the local economy. However, past mining practices were not conservation-oriented and affected landscapes, land values, and water quality. Due to technology, many past operations were also not as efficient at extracting all the salable minerals. Re-mining is the encouraging of mining companies to return to old sites, mine the resource with modern technology, and restore the area to modern specifications. The Commonwealth encourages this by streamlining the permit process. Communities can encourage this by examining their local regulations to remove hurdles which would make re-mining more difficult.

SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

- Conduct an energy audit of municipal and County buildings.
- Prepare a model sign ordinance for community use in protecting scenic corridors.
- Conduct a natural heritage inventory of Huntingdon County.
- Develop standards for alternative development in rural areas, such as conservation subdivisions.
- 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.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
Encourage municipal financial support of local land conservancies.

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

Improve the level of enforcement of local floodplain regulations and development of riparian buffer zones.

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

Encourage forest land owners to participate in the Stewardship Forestry Program or Tree Farm Program.

Pursue a policy of linking existing public lands into a cohesive greenway network through additional land acquisition by conservation agencies.

Develop County Storm Water Management Plans for each of the County’s 19 drainage areas.

**SCENARIO 2020**

Many older Huntingdon County residents remember the last decades of the 20th century where the national arena was filled with the debate between “jobs versus the environment.” However, beginning in the late 1990s, people locally began to ask how they might have both (good jobs and a quality environment). Today, water, agricultural land, greenways, forest, and mineral resources support a high level of employment and enhance the quality of life.

Over 100,000 acres of farmland have been incorporated into Agricultural Security Areas. Ten thousand acres of this total have been permanently preserved through the purchase of conservation easements. This farmland represents the most at-risk and the most productive farmland in the county. The infusion of capital has allowed many to reinvest in their farms, while others were able to keep farming in their family. The decline in farms and farmland experienced during the 1990s has been halted. This agricultural stability and the availability of good water supply have attracted food processors to area business parks.

Greenway corridors of public land and private land under conservation easements line the County's ridge tops and stream banks. In many areas, riparian buffers of native trees shade streambanks and filter storm water entering the stream. Fish habitat has been improved, and sport fishing is a popular pastime. Virtually all of the undevelopable land and much of the difficult to develop land along the county's mountain ridges have been incorporated into public forests and game lands, protecting the value of this wildlife habitat.

Forest land, which still covers 70 percent of the land area of the County, provides a sustainable resource. Almost two thirds of this resource continues to be privately owned and managed through forest stewardship and tree farm programs. This care for forest resources has incubated a vital wood products industry. Local hardwoods are processed locally into finished consumer products, including furniture and building materials.

Much of the progress in resource conservation has been made possible through a new partnership between state and local government. State agencies, such as the Bureau of Forestry and Fish Commission, have worked closely with the County Planning Commission and Conservation District to implement the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan’s vision of resource conservation and economic development.
HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PLAN

The historic and cultural heritage of Huntingdon County should be respected, preserved, and interpreted. From the founding of Huntingdon in 1767 to the present day, people have raised families, built homes, blazed trails and transportation routes, and developed the economy of Huntingdon County. Knowledge of the past and living among vestiges of the community's history helps to place current residents' lives in context. It can also increase local patriotism and affection for the community. If love of community is promoted through the understanding its past, decisions about the future will be better informed and more carefully made.

Understanding the importance of heritage, Huntingdon County developed the Huntingdon County Heritage Plan in 1996. This chapter brings the major findings and recommendations of that plan into the County Comprehensive Plan. This is done to assist in integrating new development into the historic framework without destroying it. It will also assist in realizing economic goals by promoting history as a tourism theme.

I. Summary of Findings - The Resource: The Heritage Plan begins by offering a thumbnail sketch of the County's history along with related background data. Included in this latter element is a description of the County's Historic Districts, Landmarks, and Sites. The largest resources are its seven Historic Districts:

- Huntingdon Borough
- Mount Union Borough
- Robertsdale and Woodvale
- Greenwood Furnace
- Whipple Dam
- PRR (a lineal district)
- Marklesburg

The two Historic Landmarks also deserve specific mention. One, the East Broad Top Railroad (EBT) is one of the premier historic resources of the County. It is a 33-mile narrow gauge railroad. Originally built to haul coal from the Broad Top, it now functions as a tourist service. It is the only authentic steam-powered, narrow gauge railroad now operating in the eastern United States.

The second national historic landmark is Pulpit Rocks. Pulpit Rocks is a natural rock formation located along the historic Huntingdon County, Cambria, and Indiana Turnpike. It is historically significant due to its association with Pennsylvania's first geologic survey conducted in 1836.

In addition to the preceding, there are 31 National Historic Sites. In combination, these Districts, Landmarks, and Sites give Huntingdon County more formally identified historic resources than any of the other counties in Southwest Pennsylvania.

According to surveys and public meetings conducted during the preparation of the Heritage Plan, five "Top Sites" and six "Top Themes" were identified:

**Top Sites**
- East Broad Top Railroad
- Huntingdon County Courthouse
- Huntingdon Union Depot
- Pennsylvania Canal
- Company Square, Robertsdale

**Top Historic Themes**
- Railroad
- Canal
- Paths and Highways
- Native Americans
- Iron
- Coal
HERITAGE PLAN GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

After reviewing the historic background and the input from agencies and individuals, the Plan then devoted a section to the feasibility of heritage development. In summary, there are a number of pros and cons relative to the feasibility of heritage development. On the plus side, many of the sites are on public lands. Many are also well documented. The historic resources also lie in an area which is scenic and beautiful, enhancing tourism marketability. Perhaps most important, from local officials to everyday citizens, there is strong interest in heritage development.

The impediments to heritage development center around lack of knowledge about resources, lack of protection for resources, and lack of financial and management resources to better promote heritage. For example, there are no local ordinances to protect historic districts. Schools do not integrate local heritage and culture into the curriculum. Renovators are seldom aware of the Secretary of Interiors’ standards for historic preservation or the tax credits available for consistent rehabilitation. Where there is interest and knowledge, such as among local historical societies, there are seldom adequate staff or financial resources.

Thus, armed with fact and analysis, the Plan moved to setting goals. Many goals have been achieved or are currently being implemented. This portion of the Plan will, thus, serve two purposes. First, it will attempt to highlight some of the Heritage Plan goals which have particular importance to all aspects of Huntingdon County. Second, it will examine the role of historic resources as a component of achieving the vision for the 21st century.

ANALYSIS AND PLAN

The key need is for greater coordination of activities to focus limited resources and make heritage development a possibility. The central entity for such coordination should be the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee, supported by the County Planning Commission. Recommendations fall into broad categories:

- Encourage preservation restoration and adaptive reuse of historic buildings.
- Interpretation of resources and local heritage.
- Focused attention on listed resources and nomination of new listings. Perhaps the highest priority is the County’s most endangered National Historic Landmark.

Where properties are listed already, efforts must also be made to promote, interpret and protect the resource. Some specific needs are listed below by district:

Huntingdon Borough - Consideration should be given to extending the district boundaries and focusing on two features which could tie the district together: a centerpiece through restoration of Union Depot and a linear park along Pennsylvania Avenue.

Mount Union - Mount Union has a rich heritage of ethnic cultures which is largely unappreciated; promotion is necessary. Further interpretation of the brick industry could also tie into the EBT.

Broad Top Area - The existing district at Woodvale should become a focal point and be tied into greater EBT service. Resources in Dudley such as the Palace Hotel and Huntingdon and Broad Top Water Tower should be nominated for the National Register.

Reality Theatre - The current centerpiece of the Reality Theatre should be expanded to include a transportation link, a company house, and greater ability to convey the experience of this unique mining area.

Greenwood Furnace - The State Park is already interpreting the resource, and efforts to further this should be supported through implementation of the park’s interpretive plan. From a tourism perspective, a lodging component should be considered, such as the existing Iron Master’s Mansion.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
Marklesburg/Pennsylvannia Railroad/Wipple Dam - Greater interpretive efforts are needed, especially interpretive signage.

Finally, it should be noted that many of the focused resources center on Huntingdon County's industrial heritage. However, the County also has a rich agricultural heritage. The Brumbaugh Homestead should be considered as a centerpiece in efforts to share the area's agrarian history.

Encouraging preservation rehabilitation and adaptive reuse.

The East Broad Top Railroad is a recognized "world-class" historic resource, and generally regarded as endangered. Railroads top the heritage theme list and are proven tourism generators. This Plan can best reiterate a key recommendation — implement the Full Steam Ahead report.

Efforts must also be made to tie the EBT into other tourism resources. The Broad Top Coal Miners Historical Society has exhibited real enthusiasm and a "can-do" attitude. Efforts must be made to link the Coal Miners Museum and the railroad. This will involve both a marketing component, and new attractions for the Broad Top, perhaps the virtual reality exhibit or an alternate ride experience, such as mules pulling coal cars. This will benefit all of Huntingdon County by making the EBT day trip into an overnight experience to see and do more.

Additional components should further the service area of the EBT. In particular, the Conrail spur in Mount Union and service from Rockhill to Robertsdale and Rockhill to Mount Union should be sought. This may require creation of a rail authority or corporation to package financing. However, it is doable, as proven by the Oil Creek and Titusville (OC&T) Railroad in Northwest Pennsylvania. In fact, while primarily preserved for historic and tourism interest, the OC&T has actually filled a Conrail service gap and is hauling freight for small businesses in Titusville. Such a future is not inconceivable for the EBT (though gauge differences may make it more difficult).

The cornerstone of historic preservation policy in the United States is the National Register of Historic Places. The Register was established as a part of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Properties listed on the Register may be listed for architectural or historic significance. That significance may be local, statewide, or national. As an administrative process, the National Register listings in Pennsylvania are administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, which is the official State Historical Preservation Office. The Museum Commission’s policies have been to encourage the listing of districts in which a number of related structures can be honored and interpreted in their connection with one another. Once listed, the Register has three main benefits:

The first benefit is that the listed property receives some protection from any project utilizing Federal funds which would create an adverse impact upon it. It is important to note that this protection does not apply to any private activity. The property owner remains completely free to alter, expand, or demolish the structure in any way. However, government-funded projects, such as road-building activities or use of Community Development Block Grant funds, do not have the same freedom. At the very least, an extensive documentation process is required before demolition or significant alteration. Thus, the Register can protect private property from destruction by a public body.

The second benefit is that owners of income-producing property, who conduct restoration activities which meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation, can receive a significant 20 percent tax credit. For business owners, the tax credit, if pursued carefully, can result in significant profitability. The difficulty tends to be in working with a design and construction team that understands the standards and completing the necessary paper work. This is an area in Huntingdon County where additional education could be worthwhile.

The final benefit of the National Register is that it is simply an honor. Many property owners purchase plaques for their property, increasing interest in local and national history, and thereby increasing patriotism and love of place. With an understanding of the importance of the National Register as a tool, it is recommended that Huntingdon County:

- Utilize the National Register of Historic Sites process to protect resources from Federally funded adverse impacts and as an honor locally in these communities.
Alexandria  
Orbisonia  
Shirleysburg  
Spruce Creek  
McAleveys Fort  
McConnelstown  
Petersburg  
Three Springs  
Rockhill  
Saltillo

Some scattered sites, including the Brumbaugh Homestead, Palace Hotel (Dudley), and Juniata College buildings, should also be combined for nomination.

The vision established in the 1996 Huntingdon County Heritage Plan outlines a path by which the celebration and preservation of the County’s rich past can be maintained and strengthened. This recognition of local history is a key ingredient in feeding the love of place, upon which the Comprehensive Plan vision is based. There are a number of Heritage Plan projects which are particularly pertinent to the Comprehensive Plan and its vision. Of key importance are the urban “centers” communities. While these communities have historic resources, it must be remembered they are part of a living heritage. The downtowns and compact neighborhoods are not museums. They are homes and businesses laid out in a pleasing, efficient community which fulfills the ideal of the “centers” concept. Specific recommendations to fulfill this involve subsidy through rehabilitation, National Register Protection, and sympathetic zoning and codes.

There is little doubt that the quality of many of the older buildings in Huntingdon County’s centers could not be replicated today, simply due to changing economics. In terms of long-term investment, it simply makes sense to foster a policy which reinvests in these private structures. Encouraging participation in housing rehabilitation programs can allow low-to-moderate-income homeowners to make in-kind replacements to the historic materials which comprise the components of their homes. Many could not otherwise afford the quality of materials inherent in in-kind material replacement. As a substitute, they would, thus, utilize inappropriate or inferior modern materials.

For communities with housing rehabilitation programs, the preservation ethic could be fostered by ensuring that the per house limits are sufficient to permit quality in-kind replacement. It might even be possible to develop a two-tiered system, in which historically significant homes are allowed a higher per home limit than others.

For commercial structures, the Commonwealth has periodically made cost-share programs available for facade restoration. Communities with significant downtowns, who plan to pursue this, should strive to develop a market study; then address physical revitalization needs through a partnership with downtown banks and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Facade programs tend to work best where the merchants are also building owners. In a situation where buildings are rented by absentee landlords, there is less financial incentive. One component of this partnership could be an effort to secure below-market capital for tenants to purchase the building. A second alternative is a form of conservation easements for centers in which the facade, after restoration, becomes public property through an easement. This can have some obvious tax benefits for even an absentee owner.

It must be recognized that at least some of the damage to historic resources was fostered by inappropriate suburban-style zoning. Some zoning ordinances have applied such standards as on-site parking and extensive yards which make it easier to build new buildings which destroy the urban fabric of density or even encourage demolition. Communities with both historic resources and zoning should review their ordinances for these unintended effects.

- At a minimum, ensure that the standards for on-street or off-street parking, and reuse of non-conforming buildings do not encourage the demolition of sound historic buildings in centers.

- Permit zero lot line and very minimal side yard requirements so that new buildings can be built at similar mass to preserve streetscapes.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
Use the sign section of zoning ordinances to preserve streetscapes while allowing advertising.

For communities which really value their historic resources, land use regulations can do more than not encourage destruction; they can actively protect resources. There are two options for this in Pennsylvania. The first is the creation of a historic district under the provision of the Historic District Act of 1961. Not to be confused with a National Register Historic District, the State law is significantly more comprehensive. Under this approach, a majority of property owners in the proposed district must petition the local government. Upon passage of the ordinance, the local government must create a Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB). The composition of the HARB is defined by the law and must include an architect, code officer, and realtor. Subsequent to passing the ordinance and creating the HARB, all new construction, exterior renovations, and demolitions must be reviewed and approved. The HARB approach is used in a number of Pennsylvania communities, including Bellefonte in Centre County, Mercersburg in Franklin County, and Hollidaysburg in Blair County.

The second option is to utilize zoning powers to protect historic resources. This power is specifically granted by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, but has not been as commonly used in Pennsylvania. The typical approach has been to create an Overlay Zoning District, which includes preservation standards. Where development is proposed in the Overlay District, a local historical commission acts as advisor to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Finally, public health and safety in an environment of older buildings must still be protected. The basic tool for this is the BOCA Property Maintenance Code.

INTERPRETATION OF RESOURCES AND LOCAL HERITAGE

Heritage development as a component of tourism necessitates a linking of individual resources. It is here that coordination by the Heritage Committee can provide real assistance. An overall poster map is needed that ties all the County's resources together. Over time, similar flyers can be developed for specific themes. At this point, the coal heritage would be ready for such a brochure. An example of such an approach is the current series of walking tour guides which should be continued and expanded upon. Over time, efforts should be made to link other resources, including:

- Native American history around the Standing Stone and Sheep Rock.
- Agricultural resources around the Brumbaugh Homestead, Upper Store Valley, and the collection of implements owned by the County Fair Board.
- Canal Heritage from Mount Union to Alexandria.
- Juniata Iron around Greenwood Furnace.

SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

- Support implementing the Full-Steam Ahead report for the EBT Railroad.
- Prepare National Register of Historic Places applications for selected resources.
- Review local zoning ordinances to ensure compatibility with historic town planning and to encourage the reuse of historic structures.
- Encourage the use of Historic Architectural Review Board Districts and Historic Overlay Zoning in the protection of historic districts and sites.
Encourage the conservation of existing neighborhoods through appropriate regulations and financial incentives.

**SCENARIO 2020**

As Huntingdon County looks back on the late 20th and early 21st centuries, one of the most intelligent initiatives was the preservation and celebration of culture and heritage. Today, the County's past is a meaningful part of the lives of County residents and the core of a vital economic sector. Heritage tourism now comprises 25 percent of the visitors to the County.

The East Broad Top Railroad is a world-class historic narrow gauge tourist railroad operating between Mount Union and Robertsdale. This year, ridership surpassed the 200,000 mark. Daily trips are offered between Mount Union and Rockhill, and weekend trips extend from Rockhill through restored tunnels and scenic hills to Robertsdale. New lodging and restaurants have sprung up in several communities along the route.

While the EBT is primarily a steam powered tourist railroad, it has had an impact on freight transportation too. The dual gauge track in Mount Union allows direct rail access to the Riverview Business Center. However, the narrow gauge section allows commodities such as timber, sandstone and limestone to be shipped to distant points directly from their source in southern Huntingdon County.

Visitor support has been vital in revitalizing downtown business districts as well as the surrounding residential areas. Property values in these areas have risen in response to consumer demand. Small shops and boutiques serve the needs of local residents as well as visitors.

In addition to the EBT, popular heritage sites include the Allegheny/Penn Street Area of Huntingdon Borough, Greenwood Furnace State Park, Mount Union Borough, Broad Top Coal Miners Museum, Friends of the East Broad Top Museum, and Swigart Museum. While not purely historical, the Living Farm Museum at Raystown Lake serves thousands of tourists and school groups each year.

The numerous heritage sites are tied together by a heritage and scenic tour route which extends over 180 miles throughout the County, and by the extensive system of greenways and trails.

Historic districts have been created in Huntingdon, Mount Union, Robertsdale, Marklesburg, Greenwood Furnace, Alexandria, and Orbisonia. Each of these districts is protected by a Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) and local zoning. Weekly guided tours of these and other historic sites have proven to be extremely popular. Local historical societies work with the Huntingdon County Historical Society and Heritage Committee in conducting these tours.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
The most common developed land use in Huntingdon County is housing. Housing is thus very important in terms of future land utilization. However, the importance of a housing plan exceeds this. Housing is really about homes and all that the image of home conveys. The home is the environment where the County’s future citizens are reared and shaped. If the physical conditions are substandard in any way, it has the potential of compromising the generation for whom the County is planning.

I. Summary of Findings: These findings are based upon the Phase I Plan, an analysis of recent plans, additional field work, and a projection of housing needs to the year 2020.

- No major Fair Housing problems were identified.
- Housing in Huntingdon County is predominately single family (83%).
- Multi-family (rental) units are concentrated in Huntingdon and Mount Union Boroughs.
- About 16 percent of all rentals are assisted by government subsidies.
- Based upon recent municipal planning studies and field surveys, there is an estimated 1,600 to 1,700 deteriorated or dilapidated housing units in the County. At least two thirds of these are probably “income-eligible” under existing programs (CDBG, HOME).

- The County, through the Planning Office, has taken the lead locally in housing rehabilitation.
- Due to the demographic patterns of the County and the relative age of homeowners:
  - A steady and increasing demand for rental housing is expected. That demand will be met primarily through the private market, with only some renters needing governmental assistance.
  - A need for “high-end” rental/condo housing has been identified.
  - A steady stream of existing homes can be anticipated in the sale market as current owners retire and look for smaller accommodations.
  - Structural changes to households (size decrease) along with in-migration will create a need for 3,500 to 4,000 additional housing units by 2020 (just 20 years away).
  - Second homes traditionally make up a sizeable portion of new housing starts in the County (15% to 20%).
  - New housing needs can only be partially satisfied by traditional single-family homes.
  - There is no new comprehensive construction building code program in the County.
  - There is no property maintenance code in the County.

GOALS

As a basis for this update of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, Continuity Through Conservation II, the Goals and Policies of the 1978 Comprehensive Plan are considered as a starting point. If these are still
applicable, they are retained. However, if they appeared dated or
inappropriate, they were deleted. For housing, the following goals were set
forth in that document:

The provision of adequate housing for all residents of Huntingdon
County. What we are seeking is as listed below:

1. Improvements of the present housing stock, when and where it is
warranted.

2. The encouragement of new housing construction.

3. The development and preservation of a high quality residential
environment.

4. The assurance of an adequate choice of housing that fits the
needs of the consumer.

5. The availability of housing that is within the means of the
consumer.

6. Development of a coordinated County housing policy.

The retention of these goals is warranted by current housing conditions.

From Citizen and Local Leader Opinions
Expressed in the Survey and Visioning Sessions

Citizen Input Relative to Housing: To determine contemporary views
on planning issues, both citizen meetings and a survey of Huntingdon
County's residents were used. The results pertinent to housing are included
in this section. It must be noted that participation in the citizen meetings
was limited, while the Countywide survey garnered a high response rate.

In the spring of 1998, there were six regional meetings conducted to
develop citizen priorities for this Plan. There was only a limited priority
given to housing by participants. Identified problems and priorities
included:

- Problems with rental housing
- A need for elderly housing
- A need for lifelong retirement (Continuing Care Retirement
Communities) projects

Generally, even these issues were ranked below other concerns. The only
time that housing was enthusiastically discussed was at the Economic
"Mini-Conference," held in Huntingdon Borough. At least one major
employer identified a lack of "up-market" rental units as a serious
recruitment problem. It was a limiting factor to the qualified young
professionals the firm was trying to bring into the County.

Housing did elicit greater interest on a Countywide basis. In the Quality
of Life Survey, there were five questions about housing. Poor quality
housing was perceived as a “minor” problem (53% of all respondents).
Conversely, there was widespread support for various housing programs.
Those ranked as a high or moderate priority, in order, were:

Promote affordable housing (81.8%)*
Promote housing for the elderly (81.5%)*
Provide housing rehabilitation assistance (68.2%)*
Provide code enforcement (67.8%)*
Promote rental housing (60.3%)*

*Combined “high” and “moderate” response.

Thus, a variety of housing policies are considered as a priority by
Huntingdon County citizens. In a review of recent comprehensive plans,
most housing recommendations center around housing rehabilitation
programs. Additional elements include elderly housing, one continuing
care retirement community proposal, the use of historic districts for
income-producing dwellings and some limited “new housing”
recommendations.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
ANALYSIS AND PLAN

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

To maintain consistency with the 1978 Plan, the policies and programs set forth in this section generally follow that format. Once more, the theme is appropriateness. Usable themes were retained, and others deleted. In this section, existing conditions are outlined, followed by a series of remedial steps. Generally, the steps are listed by priority:

A. Housing Conditions: There exist a number of substandard housing units in Huntingdon County. Only one community in Huntingdon County (Mount Union) has a comprehensive code enforcement program in effect. Finally, no pervasive demolition program which would remove dilapidated housing is available.

1. Building/Housing Code: The need for building codes will vary tremendously throughout Huntingdon County. For communities with older housing stock and less prospects for new development, the need is typically for an existing structures code to stabilize conditions and prevent dilapidated structures from becoming a dangerous nuisance. For communities seeing new suburban development, the greater need may be for a code to ensure new housing and buildings are safe. There has been long-term, Statewide interest for adoption of a uniform building code across Pennsylvania. All pending bills are based upon the BOCA family of codes. All State Bills are focused on alteration or new construction. For either existing building or new construction, a code adoption program could this four-step outline:

Step 1 - Identify a Countywide agency with the capacity, will, and expertise to enforce such a code.

Step 2 - Customize the BOCA Building Maintenance Code for use in Huntingdon County. Promote its adoption by individual municipalities, or the County, assigning enforcement to the Countywide agency (Step 1).

Step 3 - Review and customize, as necessary, the CABO one- and two-family dwelling code. Target developing areas for its adoption. Use the code agency (Step 1) for administration.

Step 4 - Review and promote, for municipal enactment, the full BOCA Code, once more using the Countywide group for administration. (The full BOCA Code involves the Property Maintenance code, new construction code for multi-family/commercial and industrial, and the 1- and 2-family dwelling code for new construction.)

2. Housing Rehabilitation: Housing rehabilitation has been another Huntingdon County success story. The basic recommendations are to "stay the course," but expand the program's impact by coupling it with related initiatives.

Step 1 - Continue the County's owner-occupied housing rehabilitation programs [Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs].

Step 2 - Coordinate housing rehabilitation efforts with local banks and savings institutions under their Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) obligations.

Step 3 - Selected municipalities should consider a real estate tax abatement policy in deteriorated neighborhoods (RETAP) to encourage reinvestment in homes.

To this date, all rehabilitation has been for owner-occupied units. The County should investigate the options for rental rehabilitation, most likely as a low or no-interest loan, or combined with a rent-control agreement.
3. **Home Buyer's Program:**

   **Step 1** - Coordinate housing rehabilitation efforts with a first-time homeowner’s program. Through this liaison, some new approaches could be tried. For example, the value of the “rehab” might be used as the down payment for a home. Target this program to villages and boroughs (centers) to have the greatest impact. Companion educational services on personal financial management and home maintenance are helpful adjuncts to these efforts.

4. **Housing Demolition:** Every effort must be made to prevent a level of deterioration that allows dilapidation. However, when structures are too deteriorated, it is not feasible to rehabilitate them, and demolition is necessary. The primary goal of this Plan is community conservation. This is especially important where potentially historic structures are involved.

   **Step 1** - Institute a voluntary demolition program of vacant homes. Under this program, local municipalities would notify owners of dilapidated structures that the structure should be razed, and alert them to the voluntary program. Rather than a code approach, the owner would voluntarily offer the structure for demolition, signing needed waivers. The municipality, a regional agency (COG, etc.), or a Countywide code agency would administer the program (grant assistance is possible).

   **Step 2** - Under the BOCA Building Maintenance Code, or via single-purpose municipal ordinances, mandatory demolition can be ordered. Some assistance to local municipalities will be needed. Local ordinances must contain due process clauses and adequate enforcement language to require demolitions. If a Countywide code agency exists, they could provide services to individual municipalities for demolition activities.

B. **Housing Supply:** According to current estimates, 3,500 to 4,000 new housing units will be needed by the year 2020 (just 20 years from now). Some of this need will be filled by converting existing single-family homes to apartments. It is expected most of this need can be met by the private market. However, the following actions are suggested:

1. **Conversions:** A review of existing zoning ordinances is needed to insure residential conversions of single homes to apartments will have a positive, not negative, impact. Density, parking, and, in historic areas, design should be considered.

2. **Assisted Housing:** Some new households will be formed by single parents. Often, these are females, and normally, they have limited economic resources.

   The traditional solution to this issue has been the provision of publicly assisted housing, through either housing projects or vouchers which can be used for subsidized private units. At present, 16.7 percent of all rental units in the County are subsidized. Comparatively, the typical rate for rural counties is around 10 percent. Even Erie County, home to the third largest city in Pennsylvania, is less than 11 percent.

   The key reason for this statistic is a particularly high concentration in Mount Union Borough. This concentration limits the geographical housing choice of low-income households. For example, a person working at a low-paying job will have a very difficult time finding affordable housing in northern Huntingdon County. The concentration of public housing also affects communities in a negative manner as well. Concentrations of dense low-moderate income housing can affect municipal and school district tax base, through a negative service to tax ratio.

   Finally, it must be noted that concentration of assisted housing tends to create artificial environments, not real neighborhoods. This lesson has been learned in larger cities where concentrations of assisted housing leads to crime and blight. However, as David Rusk (former Mayor of Albuquerque, NM) has written, “Urban underclass behavior dissolves with integration into the larger community.” Individual poverty and dependence or individual
acts of crime certainly do not disappear, but they lack critical mass to blight whole communities.

It is, thus, recommended that no new assisted housing “projects” be built in Huntingdon County in the future. Rather, efforts should be pursued to ensure that future public housing is distributed geographically and at very small scales. Mixed developments which include varied density and a mixture of assisted and non-assisted units should also be promoted.

Finally, it should be the policy of Huntingdon County to promote homeownership as the preferred option of housing for persons of all income levels. High rates of homeownership contribute to neighborhood stability and feelings of belonging within the entire community. Owner-occupied homes are less likely to become deteriorated. Owned homes also foster entrepreneurship by providing security to capitalize on small businesses. The impediment is frequently down payments.

A number of communities have created first-time homebuyer’s programs to realize these many benefits. Such an initiative is recommended for Huntingdon County. Initially, a number of options are available. The simplest of these is to combine a homebuyer’s program with housing rehabilitation. Initially, realtors should be contacted to find deteriorated homes which are not selling. Simultaneously, a local bank should be persuaded to accept the investment of rehabilitation funds in lieu of down payment by an otherwise credit-worthy prospect. The program can then be advertised. The prospect gets credit approval, chooses his home, and it is rehabbed.

There are also non-governmental initiatives which should be supported, such as Habitat for Humanity. Again, the goal is to make owner-occupied housing the preferred option — regardless of income.

3. **Elderly Housing**: Demographic projections indicate many new housing consumers will be over the age of 40 - some over 55. Their needs are varied, thus, so should County policies be varied.

   - **Retirement Housing** - Huntingdon is already home to a successful retirement community. The expansion of that facility, or the encouragement of one or more additional developments, is appropriate. This is best done by existing church or nonprofit groups. The County Planning Office’s role is one of a catalyst. However, an objective analysis of projected needs is a must in this market.

   - **Nursing Homes** - The number of nursing home beds and needs should be closely monitored, especially after the year 2010.

   - **Apartment Units** - The demand for apartment units designed for older citizens should expand rapidly after 2010. Though private market options should be pursued first, additional assisted units may be in demand. As noted in “Retirement Housing,” accurate market studies in this field are a must.

4. **Private Market**: The private market will supply most of the needed new housing. Though the private market is the supplier, meeting those needs should be approached as a public-private partnership. It is the task of a forward-looking community to analyze demographic growth trends and plan for anticipated levels of growth through its infrastructure and land use policies. A borough should examine infill opportunities, while a township may be more concerned with steering development away from inappropriate areas. Within the context of the whole County, there are two separate challenges:

   - **Housing Quality** - The traditional housing subdivision can often lead to inefficient urban sprawl. The County can act in an educational capacity to apprise both local municipalities and private builders of newer or
nontraditional approaches. Conservation subdivision, and much of the “growing-greener” movement, offers both good design and an economic incentive to the developer. This fact must be communicated to the marketplace and to regulating municipalities.

A model County subdivision ordinance providing such options should be prepared (see also Land Use) and potentially adopted by the County and/or individual municipalities.

Beyond the issue of wise and efficient use of land, there is also a need to assure quality housing. In addition to the new construction code mentioned previously, the Huntingdon County Builders Association has suggested a license for qualified builders and contractors. An examination of the County code does not seem to include this power. The consultant has been unable to find County-level licensing in another Pennsylvania county. It is probable that any form of certification would need to be voluntary (unless changes in State law package license requirements with a Statewide building code). This should be a partnership with the local builders, realtors, Chamber of Commerce, and the County. In addition to certification, such a program must be accompanied by education so that homeowners and homebuyers understand the advantage of a certified builder.

Another quality issue is the conversion of single-family dwellings to multiple-family units. This should be done in a way which assures a safe, decent, environment for all tenants.

- High-End Rental/Condo Housing: Here, the question is whether the market for such units, especially in the Huntingdon Borough area, is now strong enough to encourage the private sector to respond to that need. If not, the following steps are suggested:

  Step 1 - Hold an informational meeting between the County Planning Office, the Huntingdon County Builders Association, local realtors, and business leaders to explore this need.

  Step 2 - If a need for further action is verified, a special feasibility study for that market may be needed for this type of housing.

  Step 3 - If the event that study results are not sufficient to institute action, a coalition is suggested between real estate developers and firms expressing a need for such housing. It is possible that a private subsidy maybe needed. Any public involvement should be advisory only.

C. Residential Environment: The creation and enforcement of a modern subdivision and land development ordinance would be a first step to assure a good residential environment. This ordinance could be adopted by individual municipalities or perhaps the County. Another factor is the adoption of good zoning ordinances in “growth” communities. The need for a model County zoning ordinance is indicated. Also, constructive reviews of existing ordinances would be a positive tool. Finally, the provision of a code program (already discussed) is needed.

Some forms of protective zoning are frequently desired by the residents of new single-family subdivisions (referred to in common parlance as “R-1 zoning”). However, within this context, municipalities must also meet the needs of citizens who desire or require other forms of housing. Municipalities with the infrastructure to absorb higher-density housing should devote adequate land resources for this option. Also, in rural areas without infrastructure, mobile homes provide an important option for affordable housing. Local zoning should not prevent such a range of housing choices. It should assure that they are located in areas appropriate to their infrastructure needs and meet health and safety standards. For example, in the case of mobile homes, local regulations should include standards for adequate foundations and tie downs.

Second home developments comprise a significant number of units in Huntingdon County. The potential problem of such housing is
their subsequent conversion to year-round use. Some camps and cottages are not built to sufficient standards to allow year-round use. This creates several problems. Frequently, the road systems are not designed for year-round use. School buses and emergency vehicle access can be severely limited. At best, this is inconvenient, but at worst, it is dangerous. Other problems can occur due to infrastructure. Often, septic systems are underdesigned. In certain cases, they may be non-existent. With the small lots typical of many seasonal developments, the threat of drinking water pollution can be very real.

The key to preventing such problems is to ensure that seasonal homes meet minimum standards during the subdivision process. Road access, adequate drinking water, and proper wastewater disposal are a must. This should be done with the knowledge that some year-round occupancy will be inevitable.

D. Housing Availability: There are two basic aspects to this concern.

1. Fair Housing: The County and many of its constituent municipalities already have mechanisms in place to report housing discrimination to the appropriate agencies (PA Human Relations Commission, HUD). These resources need periodic publicity.

2. Assistance: There are a variety of programs that can assist those of modest income to purchase homes. These are available from local banks, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, or local initiatives. Currently, there is no clear measure of the need for such assistance. Therefore, research into homeowner assistance needs is suggested before a specific program is initiated.

E. Housing Roundtable: The greatest problems of plan implementation are a deadly combination of apathy and hostility. Apathy is usually on the part of citizens and local officials who are neither involved nor aware of program benefits. Hostility is often expressed by private-sector businesses who view any government actions as unneeded and unwanted intrusions. Housing Plan implementation will only occur if these groups are brought into the process, preferably before plan adoption. A roundtable composed of local government and private real estate interests could both offer positive suggestions for improving programs and ease the implementation process. A secondary benefit of such a Roundtable is to bring together diverse agencies whose programs can support or complement another organization’s efforts. This is especially true for home-buyer efforts.

Summary: The Housing Plan envisions the retention of most current housing programs, the enhancement of others, and the initiation of new efforts. The Plan makes it clear that the provision of good housing for the residents of Huntingdon County will only be successful through the combined effort of many agencies, public and private. Inducement, regulation, and cooperation are all part of the strategy to insure better housing for Huntingdon County residents.

SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

- Facilitate the private sector’s development of new housing.
- Promote a first-time home buyer’s program for Huntingdon County.
- Encourage the adoption of the BOCA Property Maintenance Code in urban municipalities.
- Encourage cooperative and regional administration of the new State Construction Code by Huntingdon County municipalities.
- Review land use ordinances to ensure they do not unnecessarily contribute to housing costs.
- Support new avenues for affordable housing in cooperation with the Huntingdon County Housing Authority, and other entities.
- Support the provision of owner and renter housing rehabilitation grants and loans in cooperation with Weatherization, Inc.

SCENARIO 2020

Visitors to the area frequently remark about the high quality of local housing. Whether new or old, single-family or multi-family, owner or renter, seasonal or year-round, homes throughout the County are well maintained and sound. Huntingdon County residents are enjoying an...
unprecedented variety of housing choices at affordable prices. These have been provided through private housing developers with minimal governmental subsidy. The governmental role has been to administer reasonable subdivision and land development standards, zoning, and a housing maintenance code.

One of the more remarkable features of local housing the market is the older neighborhoods which contain affordable, and often historic, homes. The creation of several historic districts and selected use of property tax abatement has been helpful in preserving these neighborhoods. There, one can find both well maintained single-family homes and apartments within close proximity to shopping, schools, and services. Grants and low-interest loans also aid residents in maintaining these neighborhoods. New homes fill the few vacant lots created by demolition of substandard properties. Local code enforcement policies in every municipality require property maintenance, making slum landlords a thing of the past.

Newer subdivisions with both community water and sewer service can be found in or near the county's boroughs and villages. Many of these are designed to emulate the traditional appearance of these communities, with short setbacks from the street, porches and parking in the rear along narrow alleys. Other subdivisions are almost invisible along rural roads, being built following a practice called "conservation subdivisions." In these developments, houses have been clustered on smaller lots and large areas of open space have been permanently preserved -- often as pasture or cultivated farmland. Completely redesigned attractive manufactured housing units have been integrated into many of these new communities to provide affordable housing.

The continuing trend toward smaller households has generated the development of significant new housing choices: conversion of older homes to apartments, redevelopment of apartments over commercial space in community centers, construction of townhouse-style condominiums. These smaller households include married and unmarried people under 30, empty nesters (45-55 years old) and the retired (65+). Young singles and couples have been attracted to apartments in converted older homes. Many empty nesters and retired persons live in new condominiums, where easy maintenance gives them the freedom to travel. A third new retirement community, offering housing options from totally independent living to skilled nursing care, was recently completed.

For traditionalists, single-family housing is still available in developed centers on lots less than one-fourth acre, in conservation subdivisions on lots of one-fourth to one-half acre, in conventional subdivisions with one-half acre to two-acre lots and in rural areas on lots ranging from two to ten acres. Many recreational communities offer seasonal housing options with amenities such as: community recreation centers, swimming pools, tennis courts and golf courses. Some offer locations close to public hunting and fishing areas.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
TRANSPORTATION PLAN

To even the casual examiner of community growth and change, the role of transportation is obvious. In today's society, road transportation is the most important transportation mode, accounting for over 90 percent of all U.S. annual vehicle miles (U.S. DOT Statistics). The location of homes, businesses, and factories are often decided by the capacity, convenience, and connectivity of the road system. A new subdivision, a successful industrial park, or the latest big-box retailer all see transportation as a key locational determinant. The interplay between transportation and a community's future is both absolute and obvious.

Transportation facilities represent a major investment of public capital which both influence and are influenced by land use. Highways, railroads, and airports link local communities with each other and with the world.

I. Summary of Findings: To achieve the vision of healthy centers and excellence, a holistic view of transportation is a necessity. Past experience has sadly shown that adding lanes (capacity) to key roads, without forethought, can actually diminish road convenience. Multi-lane roads become a magnet, drawing a multitude of users along its boundaries. As people enter and leave the road to shop, take the kids to school, go to work, or visit a relative, turn movements and volumes choke capacity and degrade convenience.

In practical terms, land uses generate traffic. A new 50-unit subdivision can easily generate 300 to 500 trips a day as people leave and return on their daily routine. A "big-box" retailer may generate 60 trips a day per each 1,000 square feet of space. Thus, a typical "superstore" of 130,000 square feet may see nearly 800 arrivals and departures during a shopping day. These are national averages — but the message is clear — once the road is improved, it will attract uses, which, left unchecked, will create yet more congestion.

Recognizing this simple fact, the Transportation Plan realizes the role of major roads is to provide for the efficient movement of local and through-traffic, rather than facilitating commercial development. Actions which can be taken to preserve the transportation function of Huntingdon County's major roads are needed. Route 22 is the best example of a major highway where the managed access of new development is needed to preserve that road's capacity.

Though road transportation may be the dominate subject of this section, other modes of transportation cannot be ignored. Rail traffic still carries a large volume of freight in Pennsylvania, and Huntingdon County sits astride an east-west main line. Similarly, air travel for pleasure or business is growing annually. Finally, the walker, hiker, and biker must not be forgotten. For health, recreation, and sometimes as an alternate commute, these modes are also becoming more popular.

One final note. Every discipline has its own terms. Much of this section will focus on highway transportation. Over the years, transportation planners have arrived at four general road types. The definition of these will facilitate an understanding of this Plan element.

**Expressways** - These highways provide connections between major cities and regions. They are limited access, divided, four-lane, roads that can handle large traffic volumes at high speeds. The Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) and I-99, located a short distance from the County, are such roads.

**Arterials** - Are also major roads, but can be two- or four-lane. They typically connect major population centers in a county as well as providing for through-traffic. These roads are intended to handle high traffic volumes, but at more moderate speeds than expressways. Arterials in Huntingdon County include U.S. Route 22, U.S. Route 522, PA Route 26, PA Route 453, PA Route 913, as well as PA Routes 45 and 655.

**Collectors** function in two ways. Their most obvious role is to "collect" traffic from local roads and provide subsequent access to arterials. Collectors can also provide connections between arterials or link important trip generators (residential neighborhoods, smaller shopping centers, etc.). Examples of collectors in Huntingdon County

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would include PA Route 305 and PA Route 994, PA Route 35, and PA Route 350.

Local Roads - The primary function of local roads is to provide access to individual properties. They are designed for moderate to low traffic flows, at moderate to low speeds.

Sketch “A” shows a schematic representation of these roads.

Each day in Huntingdon County, residents and visitors drive 1,275,000 miles. They do this on a network estimated to contain 1,446 miles of road - about half of which is in PennDOT’s inventory. Indeed, its roads are, far and away, the most traveled portion of Huntingdon’s transportation inventory.

From the standpoint of Statewide importance and traffic volume, U.S. 22 and U.S. 522 are the two most important highways in Huntingdon County. They also make up the primary elements of the National Highway System (NHS) in the County. The only other NHS segment is about 2½ miles of PA Turnpike which just nips Huntingdon’s southeast tip. Routes 22 and 522 travel from the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Lewistown. It travels through the communities of Orbisonia/Rockhill, Shirleysburg, Mount Union, Mill Creek, and Huntingdon. U.S. Route 22 follows the Juniata Valley through the County in an east-west direction, connecting Huntingdon with both Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. The central portions of the corridor (Mill Creek west to Blair County) experience high traffic counts - often over 10,000 vehicles a day.

A second major road corridor is PA Route 26, which traverses the County in a north-south direction from Centre County to Bedford County. There, traffic volumes are lighter, except near Huntingdon Borough, they range from 5,000 to 10,000 vehicles-a-day. Together, these three road networks dominate the County and serve the majority of the County’s residents, through traffic, as well as much of its economic base.

In terms of total usage, railroads lag far behind the highways, but still represent an important asset. Norfolk Southern tracks (formerly Conrail) roughly bisect the County following a diagonal path along the Juniata River, U.S. 22, and PA 453/45. This service is important to freight users in the County. Also, Amtrak uses these rails with Huntingdon as a stop on the cross-State passenger service. Finally, the East Broad Top Railroad operates between Rockhill and Shirleysburg.

Public transportation in the County is limited to a demand-response rural transportation system, operated by the Bedford-Fulton-Huntingdon Area Agency On Aging. Primarily, the system is intended to provide transportation to those over 65 years of age. Most trips are for medical or shopping purposes. Users must call the Agency 24 hours in advance to schedule their trip. The system is accessible to the general public, but they...
must pay full fare. Overall, this system receives very limited use by the general public.

The Huntingdon County Airport is the only such public-use facility in the County. The airport, privately owned, is located along U.S. 522 in Shirley Township. It has a 3,120-foot gravel runway. According to the Huntingdon Business Airport Study (1995), there are about 10 aircraft based here and nearly 8,000 takeoffs and landings annually.

Other aspects of transportation include recreational trails and the Path of Progress. According to the 1997 Transportation Study, there are 11 recreation trails in the County for hiking and/or bicycling. The Path of Progress is a 500-mile highway route in southwest Pennsylvania which links heritage sites. It has two loops within Huntingdon County.

Continuity Through Conservation II, Phase II, presents the following findings under Transportation:

1. The County has no public transportation, creating nearly total reliance on private automobile transportation.

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

3. County residents do not have direct access to the Interstate Highway system, but access is within 30 to 60 minutes of all areas of the County.

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

5. The County’s ridge and valley topography make travel (particularly east-west) difficult and road construction expensive.

Survey and Citizen Views: In May of 1998, a Quality of Life Survey was sent to 1,700 residents of Huntingdon County. Transportation questions resulted in the following responses:

Section III: Analysis and Plan

- In general, maintenance of the existing system was given priority over new roads.
- Neither the County Airport nor public transit received high priority.
- Relative to improvements to existing roads:
  - Route 26 north of Huntingdon Borough
  - Route 22 to four-lane status
  - Route 26 south of Huntingdon Borough

were the high priorities.

During the public meetings, transportation received various priorities. Overall, there was a concern about the highway system and the need to maintain the current system. Also, concerns about a lack of public transit was frequently mentioned. Two additional concerns mentioned were the East Broad Top Railroad and increased traffic from Tyrone along Route 453.

ANALYSIS AND PLAN

Goal: As an Improved Transportation System Permits, the Free Movement of People to Communities with the Best Jobs and Highest Environmental Quality can be supported.

This goal is detailed by a series of Objectives, Policies, and Actions which are detailed below.

Plan for a High-Quality Arterial Highway System Which Serves to Connect Huntingdon County to the Rest of the World: This policy requires two quite separate but critical actions. The first is obvious — to aggressively request programming for construction projects to upgrade and improve Huntingdon County's principal roads, primarily U.S. 22 and U.S.
26. The second is to control road access so the physical improvements are not neutralized by unchecked commercial strip development.

- Focus State and Federal aid on arterial highway needs.
  - Already identified major projects include PA Route 26 (northern, middle, and souther section)
  - U.S. Route 22 reconstruction (Porter and Smithfield Townships)
  - PA Route 26 reconstruction study
  - U.S. Route 522

**Support the Development of Secondary (Marginal) Access Roads and Use Other Strategies to Minimize Entrances to Arterial Roads:**

Unlimited access to arterial roads creates safety problems as well as effectively diminishing road capacity. These strategies to preserve optimum road function.

- Support limiting new access onto arterial roads through the PennDOT driveway permit process.
  - Regulate minimum spacing driveways
  - Regulate minimum corner clearance
  - Limit access per property frontage
  - Consolidate access from adjacent properties
  - Require access (where possible) on secondary roads

- Insert the requirement for marginal access roads into existing subdivision and land use development ordinances — develop standards for same.

- Through PennDOT and FHWA partnerships, secure funding of marginal access roads as a strategy to preserve the capacity of NHS arterials.

- Work with the HCB&I to have marginal access roads as a design standard for major economic projects along arterials.

- Purchase frontage development rights along prime arterials.

**Discourage Strip Commercial Development in Local Zoning:** The control of strip retail use along major roads will help keep roadway capacity. It will also diminish conflict between development and transportation goals.

- Educate local elected officials and planning commission members on the negative elements of strip commercial zoning.

- Prepare a retail market study to quantify the remaining need for additional commercial zoning in the County.

**Participate Fully in the Transportation Planning and Development Process Through Participation with Both the Southern Alleghenies Transportation Committee and Directly with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.**

Encourage a concept for Routes (PA) 26, (U.S.) 22, and others to protect important vistas, including the purchase of scenic easements and limited frontage easements. The scenic beauty of Huntingdon County is one of its primary assets. However, it is also a perishable one. If special vistas are not preserved, this unique visual sense of place will be lost.

- Identify arterial sectors of scenic value (see Transportation Plan - Key Scenic Roads).

- Approach public and foundation sources to acquire scenic frontages.

- Aggressively participate in PennDOT design to further key rural road preservation.

- Design criteria for scenic areas should consider
> Natural landscapes extending 30 feet to 100 feet from the cartway edge.
> Retention of existing farm fields or woodlands as much as possible.
> New development setbacks.
> Avoidance or reduction of cross street and driveway access.

Support intersection improvements and realignments for the traffic safety. Basic safety improvements to protect the traveling public make sense. Such projects also fit Federal program priorities nicely:

- Work with PennDOT accident data to identify the worst ten accident intersections in Huntingdon County.
- Based upon intersectional analysis, promote remedial projects to alleviate the problems.

Continue offering testimony to the regional planning agency to support the decision-making process (an ongoing HCPC function). The aggressive participation in this planning process is the keystone to the Transportation Plan. Federal and State funds are allocated by this process, and they hold the sole means for effective Plan implementation.

- Huntingdon County is part of a multi-county Rural Planning Organization (RPO), the Southern Alleghenies. As lead agency in the County, the HCPC must continue to emphasize its priorities to the RPO and directly to PennDOT.
- The overall concept strategy for major highways in Huntingdon County is shown by Table T-1.
- The annual Transportation Improvement Program for Huntingdon County should incrementally implement the overall concept strategy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I-76</td>
<td>Fort Littleton to Tuscarora Tunnel</td>
<td>Safety improvements.</td>
<td>The Pennsylvania Turnpike is in need of continual improvements to bring it up to current traffic safety and design standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 22</td>
<td>Mount Union to Water Street</td>
<td>Widen from 2 or 3 to 4 or 5 lanes, providing a center turn lane.</td>
<td>The design of US 22 dates from the late 1940s. Additional traffic capacity is needed along with implementation of access management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 522</td>
<td>Mount Union to I-76</td>
<td>Reconstruct the cartway to allow for 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>While most of US 522 was reconstructed in the 1990s, additional work is needed to provide a modern 2-lane highway from the PA Turnpike to US 22.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 26</td>
<td>Huntingdon to State College</td>
<td>Reconstruct the cartway to allow for 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>PA 26 has been designated as the Standing Stone Parkway. Access controls are needed to protect this key highway from encroachment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 26</td>
<td>Huntingdon to Everett</td>
<td>Reconstruct the cartway to allow for 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>PA 26 carries considerable recreational traffic and is the gateway to Raystown Lake. Access controls are needed to protect this key highway from encroachment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 45</td>
<td>PA 453 to Centre County Line</td>
<td>Reconstruct the portion near Spruce Creek to 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>PA 45 has been designated a part of the Pennsylvania Bicycle Route. Paved shoulders will aid bicycle safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 453</td>
<td>US 22 to I-99</td>
<td>Reconstruct the cartway to allow for 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>The portion of roadway near Birmingham has narrow road cuts, falling rock, and inadequate shoulders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 655</td>
<td>US 22 to Fulton County Line</td>
<td>Reconstruct the cartway to allow for 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>PA 655 is an important Minor Arterial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 913</td>
<td>PA 26 to Fulton County Line</td>
<td>Reconstruct the cartway to allow for 2 twelve-foot lanes and wide paved shoulders.</td>
<td>PA 913 is an important Minor Arterial.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section III: Analysis and Plan
Support the Design of Collector and Local Streets Consistent to the Nature and Future Land Use of the Community.

Encourage an appropriate standard for new rural roads in low-intensity areas through subdivision and land development standards. At the same time, discourage excessive standards.

- The County is embarking upon the creation of model subdivision regulations. This will allow the inclusion of concepts for new roads which meet development needs but do not aggravate road congestion or promote excessive runoff.

- In its review of subdivisions for those communities having local regulations, a similar design approach can be utilized.

See Sketch B.

**Encourage the Development of Sustainable Alternatives to Auto Travel Throughout Huntingdon County.**

A design element, related to roads, is sidewalks. Sidewalks provide pedestrians an alternate route for short trips. The requirement of sidewalks in higher-density residential subdivisions, be they urban or suburban, can impact road width and promote pedestrian safety. The new standards model subdivision and land development ordinance and review process can also be used for this goal.

Examine the need for regular bus service to neighboring counties, taxi service, and para-transit service.

- A new approach in public transit and transportation is warranted. This is not merely an issue of individual mobility but also may encompass important economic issues of home-to-work transportation. A transportation study involving transportation, social services, and economic development is needed.

- Encourage paved shoulders, when appropriate, and lanes for pedestrian non-motorized traffic.
  - This strategy is needed as an adjunct to the existing trail system in the County. It will provide an inexpensive way to extend walking/biking facilities.

See Sketch C.

- Support continued service by Amtrak for passengers as well as efficient freight service by N-S and an expanded viability for the EBT Railroad.
  - The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) has limited service to the County (2 east-bound trains and 2 west-bound trains). Additional service would enhance usage and provide better connections to both nearby and distant destinations.

- The Norfolk-Southern Railroad Company, as successor to Conrail, provides main line east-west service to Huntingdon County. Rail service is critical for key industries, due to its ability to efficiently move bulk cargo.
Local service should be maintained, and enhanced, as opportunities arise.

* Support an expanded role for the EBT Railroad.

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

- A master plan for the airport is now underway. That document will set forth an incremental improvement program. Such a program is needed to attract greater use of this facility.

**Better Access to Raystown Lake:** Raystown Lake is a truly regional attraction, drawing visitors from not only Pennsylvania but the entire Eastern and mid-Atlantic area. Better and more efficient road access is needed.

The 1980 Transportation Plan suggested 20 separate road improvements to facilitate links to key Raystown facilities (see Table T-2). Some of the suggested improvements have been realized (i.e., improvements to SR 994 to the Restart Area), and others are part of the County's arterial strategy. However, much remains to be accomplished. A Raystown Transportation Task Force should place priorities on State-owned roads and work for their improvement via annual maintenance funding or by the TIP. New funding options for Township roads may need to be explored as some key links to the Dam and Overlook on local roads.

**Where Does the Money Come From?** In most planning reports, the issue of funding is ignored. Yet, for certain plan elements, it is indeed important. That is the case for transportation. Federal and State taxes on diesel fuel and gasoline will pay for most, if not all, of the major improvements envisioned by this Plan.

There is little doubt that Federal funds are the most critical element for freeway and arterial funding. The current Federal program is "TEA-21," the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. This act sets general goals and provides for the distribution of Federal funds — primarily from the Highway Trust Fund, until the year 2003. Dollars are allocated to the National Highway System, the Interstate System, the Surface Transportation Program, and for bridge replacement and rehabilitation. Transit, highway safety, and research are also funded by TEA-21. This is accomplished by an ongoing planning process which is formalized by an annual TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) and a long-term plan. In all, these Federal funds will total $35 to $39 billion annually.

If this Plan is to be successfully implemented, County priorities must be matched with TEA-21 funding priorities. Only then can there be a reasonable chance for success.

Airport funding is derived separately from fees charged to air system users. Once again, there are clear Federal priorities and specific programs that need to be recognized if improvements to the Huntingdon County Airport are to be realized.

The emphasis of this Plan is based upon major road, rail, and air needs. However, the County's transportation network is incrementally extended as new residential, commercial, and industrial subdivisions are built. Historically, the cost of these new streets are the developer's responsibility. The Plan suggests no change to that policy. Furthermore, certain construction and design standards must be met. Again, this Plan suggests no change from current policy. One new element should be added, the relation of new roads and streets to the existing road network. Contemporary road network design suggests more interconnection between new development and existing roads are needed. Where high traffic generation is expected (over 250 trips per day), these links become very important.
SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

- Promote free-flowing traffic on arterials by promoting sound design standards and avoiding excessive strip development.
- Discourage excessive entrances into major arterials.
- Develop appropriate standards for urban, suburban, and rural local roads.
- Focus financial assistance on arterial highway needs (Routes 22, 26, and 453).
- Coordinate both public and private actions in support of transportation improvements, including participation in the transportation planning process.
- Develop a County-level Transportation Information System.
- Promote mass transit rail and paratransit options.
- Improve access to Raystown Lake.

SCENARIO 2020

Why this complicated and far-reaching plan? The following is where this Plan’s visions transportation in Huntingdon County 20 years hence.

Transportation in Huntingdon County in the Year 2020: Huntingdon County is finally well connected with all areas of the state and nation through an intermodal system of transportation. While County residents and businesses are still primarily reliant on highways and private automobiles, improvements have been made to highways as well as trails, public transportation, intercity rail, and air transportation to increase mobility and improve transportation safety.

Highways: The County’s arterial highways, U.S. 22, U.S. 522, PA 26, PA 453, PA 913, PA 655 and PA 45 are well maintained after having been upgraded to modern design standards over the past ten years. All areas of Huntingdon County are within 25 miles of an Interstate Highway on these upgraded roads. Even collector roads have received overdue maintenance and are in excellent shape. All arterial and collector roads have a level of service of “C” or higher.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Traffic Route</th>
<th>Traffic Route Location</th>
<th>Serving As Access To</th>
<th>Level of Improvement</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>SR 994</td>
<td>PA 26 to SR 3001</td>
<td>Raystown Resort</td>
<td>Reconstruction*</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>SR 3011</td>
<td>PA 26 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Seven Points</td>
<td>2-Lane Relocation*</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>SR 3033</td>
<td>SR 3016 to SR 3009</td>
<td>Seven Points</td>
<td>Widening and Structural Overlay*</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>PA 26</td>
<td>US 22 to Bedford County Line</td>
<td>Raystown Lake</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SR 3001</td>
<td>PA 913 to PA 994</td>
<td>Raystown Resort</td>
<td>Widening and Structural Overlay</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>T 431</td>
<td>SR 3045 to T 440</td>
<td>Dam</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>T 430</td>
<td>SR 3009 to Dead End</td>
<td>Susquehannock</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>SR 3010</td>
<td>PA 26 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Aitch</td>
<td>Widening and Structural Overlay</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>SR 3007 and SR 3003</td>
<td>PA 913 to Bridge on SR 3003  Across Reservoir</td>
<td>Hopewell</td>
<td>Widening and Structural Overlay</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SR 3002</td>
<td>Existing PA 26 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Shy Beaver</td>
<td>2-Lane Relocation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>SR 3003</td>
<td>East Side of Bridge on SR 3003 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Weavers Falls</td>
<td>Reconstruction and Bridge Improvement</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>SR 3043</td>
<td>U.S. 22 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Snyder's Run</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>3.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>SR 3045</td>
<td>SR 3043 to T 434</td>
<td>Lookout and Dam</td>
<td>Widening and Structural Overlay</td>
<td>1.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>SR 3009</td>
<td>PA 994 to T 405</td>
<td>James Creek</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>T 434</td>
<td>SR 3045 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Lookout and Dam</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>2.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>T 440</td>
<td>T 434 to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Dam</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>T 405</td>
<td>Existing PA 26 to SR 3009</td>
<td>James Creek</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>T 419</td>
<td>PA 26 to Brumbaugh's Homestead</td>
<td>Brumbaugh's Homestead</td>
<td>Widening and Structural Overlay</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>T 369</td>
<td>PA 26 to SR 3003</td>
<td>Hopewell</td>
<td>2-Lane Reconstruction</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>SR 3011</td>
<td>Administration Building to Corps Boundary</td>
<td>Upper Corners Area</td>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Completed Project

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Route 22 has been improved to a four-lane controlled access highway throughout Huntingdon and nearby counties. In the Huntingdon Area, a fifth turning lane has been added from the Million Dollar Bridge to the PA 26 interchange. In other areas an innovative program has allowed the purchase of frontage development rights along Route 22 to reduce the number of driveways onto this heavily traveled arterial road. U.S. 22, the old William Penn Highway, is now a modern four-lane highway from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh.

The innovative controlled access program has been extended to U.S. 522 and PA 26. While these roads have remained two-lane, turning lanes have been provided at key intersections to promote traffic safety and the roads have been widened to 12 foot lanes with 8 foot paved shoulders. This allows recreational bicyclists to use these roads safely. The recently completed McAlevys Fort Bypass and various curve realignments have smoothed travel between Huntingdon and State College. The reconstruction of U.S. 522, completed throughout Huntingdon County in 2002, has been extended south through Fulton County to I-76 at Fort Littleton and to I-70 at Warfordsburg.

The Huntingdon County Scenic and Heritage Route provides a comprehensive tour of the County over various state highways. Interpretive pull-offs and scenic overlooks have been provided to tell visitors about Raystown Country and the many attractions found in the County. The route still follows the same roads as when it was established in 1995: Northern Loop follows PA 26 from Huntingdon to PA 45 in Pine Grove Mills, PA 45 south to U.S. 22 at Water Street, and US 22 from there back to Huntingdon; Southern Loop follows PA 26 from Huntingdon to PA 913 at Saxton, from there to Robertsdale, from Robertsdale to Rockhill via PA 994, from Rockhill to Mount Union on U.S. 522, and, finally, back to Huntingdon on U.S. 22.

Rail - Intermodalism is working very well between AMTRAK, the new "Access Huntingdon" public transportation system and the private taxi company serving the Huntingdon Area. Both the taxi and "Access" vans meet each train. Passengers are then transported to their final destination by either the "Access" van or a taxi. Several area resorts support "Access" by including the price of a shuttle between the railroad station and the resort in the price of their lodging.

Railroad passenger service to the County was improved significantly recently with the addition of two additional trains east and west for a total of four east-bound and four west-bound trains each day. Service was also improved with the addition of new "high speed rail" equipment on the Harrisburg to Pittsburgh section of the former PRR Mainline and various track improvements. Passenger trains can now operate at speeds of up to 150 mph, cutting the travel time from Huntingdon to Harrisburg from 2.0 hours to 1.25 hours and from Huntingdon to Pittsburgh from 2.5 hours to 1.6 hours.

Freight and passenger service were improved with the reestablishment of the East Broad Top Railroad from Mount Union to Robertsdale. Freight service is provided to the Riverview Business Center via a dual gauge track (using standard gauge cars). Tourists can now travel from Mount Union to Robertsdale via the authentic narrow gauge steam railroad. Frequent trips are made each day between Mount Union and Rockhill. Die-hard rail fans can take the day-long round trip between Mount Union and Robertsdale with a stop-over at the historic Rockhill Railroad Shops and Roundhouse.

Air - The new Huntingdon County Airport in Shirley Township is home base to over 30 private and corporate aircraft. The newly lengthened 4,000 foot asphalt runway and improved hanger and ground support facilities have encouraged six local companies to base aircraft here. The existence and location of the airport has been credited with attracting three firms to the Riverview Business Center over the past five years.

Sidewalks and Trails - After years of neglect, pedestrians and cyclists now have improved sidewalks and trails. A fully developed system of walks serves all of the County's eighteen boroughs and adjacent urban development. While the trail system primarily serves recreational users, portions are used by cyclists who prefer to commute via the bicycle. Recently completed trails include the multi-use Juniata River Trail, which extends from Williamsburg in Blair County to Mount Union, and the Blair Trail, which extends from Penn Street in Huntingdon to the Standing Stone Golf Course in Oneida Township. Portions of the old Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad have been reclaimed as a multiple use trail near Marklesburg Borough and

Section III: Analysis and Plan
through the Broad Top Area. Hiking trails, such as the Mid-State, Link and Terrace Mountain Trails, are regularly used by back-country hikers and campers.

Public Transportation - An innovative employer-supported transportation system has provided additional options to workers who prefer to leave the automobile at home. Built on the foundation of the Bedford-Fulton-Huntingdon Area Agency on Aging “demand-responsive” van system, the new “Access Huntingdon” system has provided a way for low-income residents to get to work without owning an automobile. This system has also received additional support from various social service providers to allow their clients to travel to the various service locations in the County. Support from state government, private employers and social service agencies has enabled Access Huntingdon to increase service while keeping fares at an affordable level.

Another major improvement in public transportation was made recently with the initiation of the first private taxi operation in the County in over 30 years. This service, based out of Huntingdon Borough, will pick up a fare any place within five miles of Huntingdon, Mount Union, or Alexandria. This new venture was made possible by changes in the policies governing taxi’s in rural areas by the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission.

Transportation, a major element needed to realize Huntingdon’s vision of its future.
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES PLAN

A large part of planning is about the stewardship of our possessions and resources for the future. Perhaps the most important of these resources are the ones which are in community ownership. The water systems, public sewers, municipal buildings, schools, and parks of Huntingdon County represent decades of time and millions of dollars of investment. To rebuild them in one effort would probably not be affordable.

The most influential community facilities, relative to future development, are sewer and water services. In Huntingdon County's Comprehensive Plan, Continuity Through Conservation II, this is especially true. Much of the overall thrust of this Plan stresses the "centers" concept. Basically, the centers approach emphasizes encouraging development around existing development nodes, typically villages and boroughs. One of the reasons the centers idea makes sense is the fact that many of these existing communities have essential sewer and water systems in place. So, there is no need to build new water or sewer plants. However, even if new facilities are needed, the existence of a current population base helps make such expensive services more affordable. But, even more important, the Centers philosophy encourages new development to focus on existing nodes, rather than promoting endless low-density sprawl development. Finally, public water and sewage services can also greatly reduce the amount of land that is consumed by new development, lessening the pressure on the rural landscape.

Thus, from both a public and a planning perspective, the issue of sewer and water systems is obviously a key consideration. However, there are many other facets to a good community. Police and fire departments protect the County's physical and social investments. Schools and libraries transmit the knowledge that will allow local children to assume positions of leadership in the future. Together, these various forms of community facilities and services are the components of our civilization.

Through surveys and public meetings, the citizens of Huntingdon County have made one idea very clear — they like this area very much as it exists today. They do not wish the open space, farm fields, boroughs, and villages replaced by a sea of faceless, low-density subdivisions. A common thread of preserving the natural heritage of Huntingdon County is shared by this section, the Land Use Plan, and the Natural Resources, Conservation, and Energy Conservation Plan. The concept of rural conservation, small town preservation, greenways, trails, and scenic key rural roads can only be realized through a multi-discipline approach, which reinvests in historic centers. Consequently, though water and sewer services may be a primary focus of this Plan segment, it is only one element vital to realize the vision of a better County.

I. Summary of Findings: The following information is presented in capsule form to provide an overview of key community facilities and services in Huntingdon County. It is taken from the Background data in Phase I and its Supplement.

Water Systems: There are 17 separate water systems in the County. Huntingdon Borough easily has the largest facility, producing up to 4 million gallons daily. However, the important consideration is not merely the size of the system but its current condition and capacity for expansion. In the Background Report and Supplement, 8 systems were adjudged as having good capacity for expansion, 6 needed upgrades, and 3 were now inadequate. Of greatest concern for this Plan were the limitations of the Huntingdon, Alexandria, and Shirleysburg systems, as well as major problems with the Mount Union system.

The system of water providers is fragmented in most areas of Huntingdon County. The trend throughout the State has been toward the consolidation of water providers. This is partially the result of increased Federal regulatory standards.

Sewer Systems: Some 18 sanitary sewer systems were examined during the background studies. However, the Dudley facility, though proposed, has no final funding plan. Thus, only 17 facilities were analyzed. Once again,
systems were divided into three categories, nine were considered as being adequate to serve current users and allow for expansion, five adequate but needing upgrades, and three inadequate to serve as a developmental node. Once more, the Mount Union system was in the inadequate column. The Shirley Township collection system was also in the inadequate classification, partially due to their reliance on Mount Union for treatment, but also due to their own system's I&I problems.

Recreation: In the Background Report, recreational facilities of the County were inventoried. There were 397.5 acres of municipal resources, 998.2 acres operated by educational facilities, plus expansive private resources. The Raystown Lake complex, State Game Lands, as well as State forests comprise over 88,000 acres.

Yet, acreage alone is quite misleading. Much of this resource is undeveloped, focused on either outdoor/nature activities or are kept in a primitive state. This Plan element's concern focused on the adequacy of facilities for County residents. Originally, available active recreational resources were adjudged as inadequate. Subsequent analysis concluded that there were adequate facilities, on a Countywide basis in most recreational categories (ballfields, tracks, etc.). However, their condition and the spatial distribution of resources, in relation to County residents, represented an unknown factor. Furthermore, the physical inventory did not address local preferences or needs, nor address new recreation options (in-line skating, etc.).

Education: The County is served by six school districts, a vocational-technical school and a few private secondary schools. There are three advanced educational facilities, the DuBois Business College (branch campus); Penn State (in nearby State College); and Juniata College, located in the County Seat of Huntingdon.

Municipal Resources: There are 48 municipalities in Huntingdon County with a variety of resources and capacities. For many of the Plan's recommendations, these entities will play key implementation roles. A brief analysis of municipal characteristics revealed:

- 28 (58%) have municipal buildings or community centers
- 7 have full-time employees, another 3 employ 6 or more part-time persons
- An analysis of municipal income estimates that 24 may have adequate economic resources to address new responsibilities.
- Interest by municipal officials in formal cooperative action is limited.

County Resources: The County Seat is located in Huntingdon Borough, where the 1883 Court House is found on the 200 block of Penn Street. Other facilities include the Jail, the Sheriff's Office, HCB&I offices, Raystown Visitor's Bureau, and a District Magistrate's Office on Mifflin Street. Children Services are located on Penn Street. The County Home is in Shirley Township. As witness to their need for space, the County leases two buildings in Huntingdon Borough.

Public Services and Resources: There are a variety of organizations involved in the provision of health and safety services for Huntingdon County. Many of the primary providers are volunteer.

Police services are provided by five organizations. The County Sheriff's Office has four full-time employees. In addition to their traditional services, the Sheriff also provides security services for Raystown Lake. Huntingdon and Mount Union Boroughs have their own police departments, while Petersburg- Alexandria (Juniata Valley Regional) have a joint organization. The Huntingdon Borough barracks of the Pennsylvania State Police provide overall police service in the County.

There are 19 fire departments in the County providing service via 22 stations. These are volunteer operations. Many of the fire departments have ambulance services associated with them. In all, 7 such operations are listed in the Phase I Report.

Public safety dispatching is via a 911 call system, headquartered in Huntingdon Borough.

There is a County Library System which has three branches, Orbisonia, Mount Union, and Huntingdon Borough. Alexandria has its own local
facility. Both Juniata College and Penn State provide additional library and cultural resources for County residents.

The J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital, located in Huntingdon Borough, is the County's primary health facility. In addition, four medical centers are scattered in central and southern Huntingdon County.

Survey and Citizen Views: In 1998, a survey was sent to 1,700 County residents relative to their views and aspirations on a number of planning issues. The results relative to community facilities and services are highlighted below:

- The extension of existing water and sewer lines from existing systems was generally supported.
- Support for additional local recreational facilities was positive, but not overwhelming. This may have been influenced by a somewhat mixed attitude on the development of new tourist facilities.
- The creation of stronger library system received an 85 percent approval rating.
- Public safety services were generally rated as good, with fire and ambulance services receiving the best rankings.
- Health care was classified as fair to good by respondents

The survey results were somewhat confusing relative to recreation. In ranking existing resource services, most persons gave a good to fair mark. Yet, the question on the need for improvements seemed to elicit only modest support.

Overall, the survey results showed a focused on the economy and jobs. Thus, community facilities and services in support of such goals would probably experience wide public support.

While the survey presented a Countywide view of issues and interests, the series of public meetings and mini-conferences tended to be more focused. That focus typically centered around some current, important, local issue or a theme. Items perceived as important County strengths included Juniata College, the hospital, parks, and its good rural, low-crime, environment.

ANALYSIS AND PLAN

The overall goal of this element of Continuity Through Conservation II is:

"It is our vision that future development is focused on existing boroughs and villages to take advantage of existing public investment in utilities and services."

Public Water and Sewer: This goal clearly emphasizes and supports the Centers concept. And, nowhere else can that concept be better realized than in the arena of community facilities and services.

Both the centers concept and the historic design of Huntingdon County's centers revolve around a density of people and buildings conducive to walking. The main issue this raises is that higher densities of people with private wells and septic tanks can overwhelm groundwater resources and pollute drinking water supplies. For centers to flourish, public water and sewers are essential. A major foundation of this Plan is thus the support, maintenance, and upgrade of existing water and sewer systems and the development of a network of new ones in designated centers.
Water - There are four existing centers where the current water systems need significant upgrading to achieve Plan goals. These are Huntingdon Borough, Alexandria, Shirleysburg, and Mount Union. In addition, eight centers, now lacking water, should be encouraged to create water systems:

Shade Gap
Coalmont
Cassville
Marklesburg
Hesston
McAlevys Fort
Birmingham
Spruce Creek

Due to ever-increasing regulations on water systems by the Federal EPA, as enforced by DEP, new small independent water systems should be discouraged. New and existing smaller systems should be encouraged to federate or join together to create a better ability to cope with increasing restrictions.

In yet other areas, expansions are suggested to accommodate and guide future growth (see Future Utilities Plan).

There are some concrete steps which can realize these needs. Prepare a Countywide Water Supply and Facilities Plan for the County to assess current resources, determine future needs, and recommend actions to meet such needs. The HCPC should also take the lead in promoting regional wellhead protection studies. Given their expertise in land use planning, a Countywide consistency in protective regulations can be achieved. It is possible that the Countywide Water Facilities Plan can be integrated into this effort directly — or as a phased plan.

Sewer Systems - Similar to the strategy for water systems, sewer facilities should embrace the Centers concept. In areas with public sewers, current inadequacies in Mount Union and the Shirley Township area are a major concern, and the Huntingdon Borough facilities will require constant attention. Proposed sewer system expansions are shown on the Future Utilities Plan. New systems are recommended in the following communities:

- Birmingham Borough
- Warriors Mark
- McAlevys Fort
- Spruce Creek
- Robertsdale

As a partner to the positive program to create new systems and expand or upgrade existing systems, a second policy is needed. That policy would be to discourage new sewer plants in areas not designated on the Future Utilities Map. Some small “package” systems may be needed to accommodate special needs, such as those related to recreational places such as Raystown Lake. Also, pockets of existing pollution may require topical solutions. However, the proliferation of sprawl subdivision sewer systems would be directly contrary to this Plan’s policies.

All municipalities should also have updated Act 537 Plans. It is imperative that Act 537 Plans be integrated into the traditional comprehensive planning process and not tolerated as stand-alone documents. The continuity of individual Act 537 Plans to the centers concept is critical for the success of this Plan.

Recreational Resources: Huntingdon County is obviously rich in outdoor recreational opportunities. There are probably some major deficiencies in the area of developed recreational opportunities (sports fields and playgrounds).

The analysis of local recreation resources on a Countywide level is too generalized to give facility-specific recommendations. Furthermore, it is obvious that school districts are becoming increasingly active in both recreational resources and programming. To intelligently plan for local recreation needs, regional recreation studies, throughout Huntingdon County, are needed. Such studies must bring these primary players and other key parties to the same
table to allow for the wise development, and maintenance of recreational facilities.

At the same time, these facilities are being examined at a regional-local level. Their potential role in the provision of a system of Countywide greenways and trail must be evaluated. Local parks will serve as important links and nodes in such a system. In light of this diversity of needs and lack of data, the central recommendation is for the Huntingdon County Planning Commission to undertake a Countywide Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has funding support for such an effort which will allow the Commission to ascertain the need on a sub-county basis. The second recommendation is that public investment in these areas should mirror the centers concept. Developed recreation should be placed in, or adjacent to, centers. If municipalities outside centers wish to pursue municipal recreation, they may wish to consider a “conservation park” option, which would provide resources such as picnic areas, scenic areas, walking trails, and hunting or fishing. While this would duplicate some State and Federal resources, the concept could be combined with the recommendation for municipal forest in the Natural Resources and Conservation Plan.

A cooperative planning and management process with the agencies responsible for Federal and State recreational resources in the County must be initiated. Controlling just under 90,000 acres, Raystown Lake, State Forests, and the State Game Lands are nearly ten times as large as the combined local and school district recreational holdings. They can be of great assistance in realizing greenway goals. Likewise, they are key in any tourist development efforts. The most important reason for planning liaison is the potential impact these facilities can exert on Huntingdon County.

One major recreational resource which will lie largely outside centers but can tie centers, rural areas, and greenways into a cohesive network are trail systems. The State Recreation Plan illustrates that trail systems are among the most popular facilities in the Commonwealth. Two new trails should be investigated and supported.

- Implementation of a hiking/biking trail around the lake as outlined in the Raystown Lake Master Plan.

**Libraries and Public Schools:** These comprise the educational resources of the County. Perception of school quality is a major factor in household locational decisions. Rates of library use rise proportionally as both income and education rise, so libraries are also a factor that business leaders look for in a quality community.

Regarding schools, a former problem has been the abandonment of schools in centers and their replacement by new buildings elsewhere. However, new policies at the State level have removed the penalties for upgrading existing schools versus building new facilities. Consequently, existing community schools can more easily be maintained. Furthermore, even if new facilities are needed, the location of such schools in existing Centers will help to strengthen entire communities.

To help further this policy, the HCPC should strive to become an active partner in school district planning. The Commission has much to offer school districts in terms of its database of demographics, land use, and utilities. As an active partner in school planning, HCPC can better further the Centers policy and other County goals.

As mentioned previously, public schools often have extensive recreation facilities. They have potential cultural resources as well, through such facilities as auditoriums. Good planning should work against the unnecessary replication of such facilities. As schools are public facilities and the resources are frequently underutilized, consideration should be given to expanding schools into multi-use community centers open to all citizens of good character.

Libraries represent a very popular and well regarded County/municipal service. The people of Huntingdon County have expressed their clear desire for a strengthened library system. The questions at this point are how to coordinate and serve the whole County well. The library currently does not have a Master Plan. The preparation of one is a practical prerequisite to any facility changes.

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*Section III: Analysis and Plan*
Public Services and General Government Buildings: Counties in Pennsylvania are becoming more and more involved in a myriad of services. All too often, these new, often mandated, functions have a poor physical and management connection with traditional County operations. A space need study, combined with a capital budget approach, will allow a more consolidated approach. It could also support the Centers concept by keeping activities focused in Huntingdon Borough.

In a related vein, many municipalities in Huntingdon County lack any public meeting or office space at all. As the County grows, the complexity of local government activities will grow proportionally. It is the policy of this Plan that every municipality in the County have some form of public meeting space/municipal office. In smaller communities, this could be shared with another community-based organization, such as a fire department. Where possible, these facilities should be located in centers to facilitate public access and participation in local government.

Among the growing complexities which can be expected will be increased needs for emergency services, and social services. At present, Huntingdon County is preparing a 911 address system to develop fully integrated public safety response. After its completion, levels of protection can be evaluated.

The 911 system provides a good model for social services as well. Regardless of economic development or other policies, a number of citizens will still require social services. An integrated, interagency approach should be developed.

All of these activities require a high degree of coordination and forward looking. Again, like 911, many of these activities will fall upon the County Planning Commission (which is the only planning commission in the County with staff resources). The integration of these activities will necessitate a continued strengthening of these resources.

**SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES**

- Create a Countywide Municipal Authority to provide operator/billing and financing services to small water and sewer systems.
- Assist those urban areas which need public water or sewer to implement the centers concept.
- Develop a County recreation and open space plan to address the recreation and open space conservation needs of the County.
- Encourage formation of multi-municipal recreation commissions as a partnership of boroughs, townships, and school districts.
- Encourage the update of Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plans where needed in the County.
- Ensure that municipal sewage facility plans (Act 537) are compatible with local and County land use plans.
- Prepare a Countywide Water Plan.
- Encourage the expansion of a greater network of trails and greater interconnectivity of trails.

**SCENARIO 2020**

By the year 2020, a nearly invisible network of community services and facilities will blanket Huntingdon County, offering County residents services equal to the worlds most civilized places. Visible facilities such as municipal and other government buildings, libraries, schools and parks, and "Invisible" services such as water, sewer, telecommunication, inter-municipal, administrative and social services are provided in a professional and economical manner.

The other "invisible" service which continues to play a vital role in the community is the visioning and leadership development spawned by Continuity Through Conservation II, the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan in 2000. Huntingdon County government continues to partner with local municipalities, as an educator, technician, grantsman, and facilitator.

The highest level of services is available in the County's urban centers, including schools, libraries, municipal buildings, parks, and community
In both urban and rural areas of the County, schools are used as multi-purpose community centers, offering both education and community recreation to youth and adults. This has allowed these areas to maximize the use of these facilities and to keep tax millage low.

Partnerships between Federal, State, local, and private agencies have led to cultural as well as recreation opportunities. Both Juniata College's Rosenberger Auditorium and the new Raystown Lake Amphitheater offer the community quality theater and musical entertainment. The County's 150,000 acres of State open space and parks provide first-class boating, hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation. Over 50 local parks provide playgrounds, play fields and community recreation close-to-home for the County's 50,000 residents.

Section III: Analysis and Plan
INTERRELATIONSHIPS

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code requires all municipalities to integrate the policies of their comprehensive plan in two fashions. The first is a requirement to include a statement explaining how all the divergent elements of a comprehensive plan interrelate to each other, and the second is to consider the effect of the plan upon neighboring municipalities. This section of the Plan will fulfill those criteria. However, as this is a Countywide plan, the County also has a responsibility to consider the relationship with its constituent municipalities.

I. The County and Its Municipalities: Huntingdon County must continue to define its role in relation to its constituent municipalities. In the past, this role has been one of leadership and technical assistance. This role should continue, with a primary emphasis on facilitator. First and foremost, it is recommended that following Countywide adoption, municipalities in the County adopt this Plan as their comprehensive plan or become a formal partner through municipal resolution. To fulfill the vision, the County should:

- For and foremost, continue to provide ongoing public forums for education and planning.
- Continue to provide detailed reviews of local plans and ordinances.
- Provide basic model text for local ordinances.

Within the context, the County role will be realistically confined to education and leadership. To realize the vision, municipalities must act with each other to fulfill the citizen visions. The County should always facilitate this process. Where possible, all future municipal comprehensive plans should be joint or inter-municipal efforts.

- The County should initiate some form of pilot process to illustrate how this might work throughout the County. At this point, the most natural regions for this to occur are in Huntingdon/Smithfield/Walker, the greater Mount Union area, and the Broad Top. Due to its cohesion, strong regional identification, and history of economic problems, the Broad Top would be a good first choice for a pilot project in inter-municipal cooperation. It is recommended that Huntingdon and Bedford Counties initiate a two-stage renewal process in the Broad Top.

- Stage One - Citizen-based economic renewal, emphasizing training in community-based economic development.
- A technical study on shared services, the feasibility of municipal merger and the potential to develop a new CDBG entitlement community.

II. Inter-County Issues: Beyond the obvious areas of Mount Union and the Broad Top/Saxton area, it is believed that opportunities for inter-county land use planning are limited by topography. Huntingdon County's border with large parts of Centre, Blair, Franklin, and Mifflin Counties follow high ridge tops. Where there are not ridge tops, such as parts of the border with Fulton and Blair Counties, continued low-intensity development is anticipated on both sides of the border.

With such limitations, the County is anxious to build inter-county relationships whenever possible. This may take the form of joint activities, such as revitalizing the Saxton/Broad Top or Mount Union areas, or improving and funding a joint sewer/water system for the Mount Union/Kistler area. It may also be an ongoing activity, such as County participation on many multi-county organizations (including regional planning entities and transportation coalitions).

III. Internal Consistency: Much of the success of plan implementation will rest on the interrelationship of Plan elements around two areas: the quest for excellence and the maintenance of the centers concept.

- Environmental Conservation Plan - A healthy environment is a pre-requisite for a quality community.
- Heritage Plan - This assures that the historic centers remain pleasant small towns worthy of both private and public investment.
• **Community Facilities and Transportation** - These are key Plans to ensure that public investment implements the Plan, rather than negating it.

• **Housing Plan** - Provides the builder and real estate communities with incentives to implement the Plan, by illustrating how the centers principle means profitable development.

• **Economic Base Plan** - Provides the economic stability to keep and attract quality development. This Plan also protects the finances of households. The strong households will become strong communities. Strong communities can demand excellence in development, rather than accepting the substandard from the desperation of financial hardship. For example, a financially successful farmer will be less likely to sell his land for development.
Section IV

Action Plan
Conclusions
## HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTION PLAN

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</table>
| Encourage all municipalities to become municipal partners by adopting the County Comprehensive Plan. | 1. Send resolution to municipalities.  
2. Offer recognition to municipal partners.  
3. Explore higher levels of County assistance to municipal partners. | County Planning Commission  
County Commissioners  
Townsships  
Boroughs | Low Cost | High | This action should not be confused with County adoption of the Plan by the County Commissioners. | Land Use Plan |
| Move toward complete coverage of Huntingdon County by Subdivision and Land Development Regulations | 1. Determine which municipalities desire to become partners in preparing a model ordinance.  
2. Develop model ordinance | County Planning Commission  
Municipal Partners | SPAG/Shared Municipal Services  
Local Funds | High | Combine with model ordinance activity. | Land Use Plan |
| Promote zoning ordinance coverage of all boroughs in Huntingdon County and select high-growth townships. | 1. Support joint grant application.  
2. Contact municipalities.  
3. Develop library of model ordinance text. | County Planning Commission  
Municipal Partners | SPAG  
SCPAP  
Local Funds | Medium | Combine with model ordinance activity. | Land Use Plan |
| Support upgrade of zoning and codes administration in Huntingdon County. | 1. Offer PA Municipal Planning Education Institute workshops.  
2. Investigate shared administration by several municipalities. | County Planning Commission oversight  
Municipal Planning Commissions  
Municipal Governments | Shared Municipal Services  
Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute | Medium | Have agreement prepared prior to workshops. | Land Use Plan |
| Encourage the development of municipal or regional comprehensive plans in all areas of Huntingdon County. | 1. Notify communities of need & funding possibilities.  
2. Provide assistance to communities in consultant selection and first steps.  
3. Provide County finance incentive.  
4. Provide professional review of draft Plans. | County Planning oversight  
Municipal Planning Commissions  
Municipal Governments | SPAG  
SCPAP  
Shared Municipal Services | High | Multi-municipal efforts get State priority. | Land Use Plan |

**NOTE:** See the last page of this section for the definition of acronyms.
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<td>Support the use of site-specific real estate tax abatements as a tool of</td>
<td>1. Obtain LERTA and RETAP laws.</td>
<td>Boroughs</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>See prior</td>
<td>Housing Plan Economic Development Plan</td>
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<td>revitalization in urban areas.</td>
<td>2. Disseminate information to local officials.</td>
<td>Townships</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County Business and Industry</td>
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<td>Develop a planning education program to promote best practices in</td>
<td>1. Contact national organization with speakers (APA, etc).</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>See prior</td>
<td>Land Use Plan</td>
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<td>planning and land use regulation techniques and professional administration of land use ordinances.</td>
<td>2. Hold a series of seminars in conjunction with municipalities.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Municipalities</td>
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<td>Develop a model subdivision and zoning ordinance which incorporates &quot;best management principles&quot; such as neo-traditional development and conservation subdivisions.</td>
<td>1. Determine municipal interest.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>Land Use Plan</td>
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<td>2. Examine funding.</td>
<td>Municipal Partners</td>
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<td>3. Develop model ordinance.</td>
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<td>Encourage inter-municipal compatibility analysis as a part of the review standard of municipal comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances.</td>
<td>1. Adopt County Plan.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>Land Use Plan</td>
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<td>2. Develop compatibility standards checklist.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incorporate the Goals/Actions/Policies of the Comprehensive Plan into the review criteria for use of County CDBG funds.</td>
<td>1. Prepare standards.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
<td>All elements of the Comprehensive Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Notify municipal applicants of changes.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Commissioners</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop and encourage a process whereby land purchases by State and Federal agencies can be part of, or linked to, a cohesive greenway network.</td>
<td>1. Meet all agency landholders to share land use goals.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Long Term</td>
<td>Could be a key initiative for greenways.</td>
<td>Land Use Plan Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Draft a memorandum of agreement between County and State agencies.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Environmental Review Board</td>
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<td>State Agencies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Central PA Conservancy</td>
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## HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTION PLAN (Continued)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>POLICIES</th>
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<th>FUNDING/COSTS</th>
<th>PRIORITY</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
<th>PLAN REFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Encourage municipal financial support of local land conservancies and local watershed association.</td>
<td>1. Establish a “challenge” fund raising program. 2. Promote the needs and results achieved.</td>
<td>Southern Alleghenies Conservancy Local Watershed Groups County Planning oversight</td>
<td>Local Funds</td>
<td>Long Range</td>
<td>Foundation funding possible</td>
<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrate the protection of environmentally sensitive areas (steep, riparian, floodplain, wetland) into local zoning and subdivision ordinances.</td>
<td>1. Integrate into model zoning and subdivision projects. 2. Find defensible standards used by other Pennsylvania communities.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Municipal Partners</td>
<td>SPAG SCPAP Shared Municipal Services</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
<td>Land Use Plan Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve the level of enforcement of local floodplain regulations and development of riparian buffer zones.</td>
<td>1. Review floodplain ordinances. 2. Meet with flood-prone municipalities. 3. Draft new regulations. 4. Conduct municipal workshops.</td>
<td>Watershed Associations Municipal Partners Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>State funding possible</td>
<td>Land Use Plan Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that land use regulations in rural areas do not restrict traditional rural activities, such as keeping of livestock or home-based businesses.</td>
<td>1. Review local ordinances. 2. Develop standards and definitions in model ordinances.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Differentiate confined feeding and other farms.</td>
<td>Land Use Plan Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage forest land owners to participate in the Stewardship Forestry Program or Tree Farm Program.</td>
<td>1. Assist State forester in better public knowledge of program.</td>
<td>DCNR Service Forester Penn State Cooperative Extension Environmental Advisory Board American Forest Foundation</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Land Use Plan Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
</tr>
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Section IV: Action Plan
### Huntingdon County Action Plan (Continued)

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<th>Policies</th>
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<th>Priority</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Plan Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Encourage sound use of energy in all municipal and County buildings.</td>
<td>1. Conduct an energy audit of County and municipal buildings.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Commissioners</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
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<td>Local municipal officials</td>
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<td>Utility Companies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop a model sign ordinance to protect the visual quality of communities and the natural environment.</td>
<td>1. Include in preparation of other model ordinances.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>SPAG</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Usually included in zoning. Can be Subdivision and Land Development or Single-Purpose Ordinance</td>
<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Huntingdon County Environmental Review Board</td>
<td>Shared Municipal Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Land Use Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct a natural heritage inventory of Huntingdon County.</td>
<td>1. Contact Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Commissioners</td>
<td>Western Pennsylvania Conservancy</td>
<td>Long Term</td>
<td>Education and publicity needed.</td>
<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County Environmental Review Board</td>
<td>DCNR</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop standards for alternative development in rural areas, such as conservation subdivisions.</td>
<td>1. Integrate into subdivision and land development and zoning ordinances.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>SPAG</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>See page 1</td>
<td>Land Use Plan</td>
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<td>Municipal Partners</td>
<td>SCPAP</td>
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<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
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<td>Shared Municipal Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>1. County creates a Farmland Preservation Board.</td>
<td>Cooperative Extension</td>
<td>PA Dept. of Agriculture</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Farm community support needed.</td>
<td>Land Use Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Farm Bureau</td>
<td>U.S. Dept. Of Agriculture</td>
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<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extend Agricultural Security Areas (ASA) to those municipalities with substantial agriculture.</td>
<td>1. Public meeting in each township.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>Land Use Plan</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Township Governments</td>
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<td>Natural Resources and Conservation Plan</td>
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<td>Farm organizations</td>
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<td>PA Dept. of Agriculture</td>
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Section IV: Action Plan
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educate communities with need and interest about agricultural protection zoning as a further option.</td>
<td>1. Develop library of model ordinances. 2. Share with those communities who may be interested.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Municipal Planning Commissions Municipal Governments</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Long Range</td>
<td></td>
<td>Land Use Plan See page 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include deed notation in subdivision regulations in Agricultural Security Areas.</td>
<td>1. Integrate into subdivision and land development ordinances.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Municipal Planning Commissions Municipal Governments</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td>Land Use Plan See page 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a Countywide Municipal Authority to provide operator/billing, financing, and services to small water or sewer systems.</td>
<td>1. Determine local interest. 2. Create Authority.</td>
<td>Municipalities and Authorities initiate County to assist in set up and creation.</td>
<td>Shared Municipal Services DEP</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Must create interest with 2 or 3 Authorities to be viable.</td>
<td>Communities Services and Facilities Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form a Huntingdon County Agricultural Development Council to become a full partner in local economic efforts.</td>
<td>1. Recruit interested farmers. 2. Establish needs and priorities for agricultural-based economic development.</td>
<td>Cooperative Extension Huntingdon County Business and Industry Farm Bureau</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support the development of new agriculture-related businesses.</td>
<td>1. Find a funding source. 2. Advertise to attract borrowers.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Business and Industry Agriculture Development Council</td>
<td>USDA (Fund for Rural America)</td>
<td>Long Term</td>
<td>Need to create Ag. Council.</td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support the direct sale of farm products to County institutions.</td>
<td>1. Compile list of farmers who are already involved in direct sales or are interested.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Business and Industry Agriculture Development Council</td>
<td>USDA (Fund for Rural America)</td>
<td>Long Term</td>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
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*Section IV: Action Plan*
### HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTION PLAN (Continued)

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</thead>
</table>
| Target major industrial-commercial development into 2-3 high quality sites to be developed as true public-private partnerships. | 1. Do site planning  
2. Develop sites. | Huntingdon County Planning Commission  
Huntingdon County Business and Industry | Community Revitalization Assistance  
EDA | High | | Economic Development Plan |
| Establish a Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone in the Mount Union area. Examine feasibility of inter-County Zone in Huntingdon & Broad Top area. | 1. Build partnership with local governments.  
2. File application for Phase I funding. | Huntingdon County Business and Industry  
Municipal governments | Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone Program | High | Keystone Opportunity Zone may also be a remote possibility. | Economic Development Plan |
| Pursue redevelopment and revitalization of Huntingdon Industrial Park and surrounding area. | 1. Analyze job losses.  
2. Apply for EDA funds. | Huntingdon County Planning Commission  
Huntingdon County Business and Industry | EDA Title IX SSED | High | | Economic Development Plan |
| Offer revolving loan funds to ensure access to capital for all types and sizes of businesses. | 1. Analyze unmet business capital needs by size of business.  
2. Develop new guidelines.  
3. Retool former County RLF to meet this need. | Huntingdon County Business and Industry | Lost Cost | High | Venture Capital | Economic Development Plan |
| Begin an organized effort to publicize local economic development successes. | 1. Convene meeting to develop a coherent PR strategy. | Huntingdon County Business and Industry | Low Cost | High | | Economic Development Plan |
| Develop an economic renewal program for the Broad Top which emphasizes inter-municipal effort and community-based development techniques. | 1. Convene meeting of region-wide entities and Huntingdon County Business and Industry.  
2. Apply for SCPAP funding.  
3. Use similar patterns for the Huntingdon Industrial Park and Riverview Business Center. | Huntingdon County Business and Industry  
Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society  
Shoup’s Run Watershed Association  
Shared Municipal Services Foundation Grants | SCPAP  
Shared Municipal Services Foundation Grants | Medium | | Economic Development Plan |
| Develop prison land in Smithfield Township as a high-quality retail/service center. Use similar patterns for the Huntingdon Industrial Park and Riverview Business Center. | 1. Develop standards to issue a Request for Proposals from developers. | Smithfield Twp. Econ. Development Corporation  
Huntingdon County Business and Industry and Huntingdon County Planning Commission | Cost Born by Developer | High | Underway | Economic Development Plan |

Section IV: Action Plan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support improvements in vocational-technical training.</td>
<td>1. Examine current resources and employer needs.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Business and Industry</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Survey employer needs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support the transfer and development of all land owned by the State</td>
<td>1. Form lobby coalition.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Business and Industry</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Couple with previous priority.</td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Corrections, south of Route 22 for planned community</td>
<td>2. Contact State officials.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Commissioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>purposes.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Smithfield Township</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and encourage the development of a year-round, full-service</td>
<td>1. Examine market options.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Business and Industry</td>
<td>Costs Born by Developer</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resort at Raystown Lake.</td>
<td>2. Contact Corps of Engineers.</td>
<td>Raystown Country Visitors Bureau</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examine the feasibility of a living, outdoor, farm museum at Raystown</td>
<td>1. Build partnership with farm community.</td>
<td>Raystown Country Visitors Bureau</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission</td>
<td>Long Term</td>
<td>Feasibility must be clearly established.</td>
<td>Historical and Cultural Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake.</td>
<td>2. Conduct Feasibility Study.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3. Investigate moving farm antique collection from fairgrounds.</td>
<td>Historical Societies</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Farm Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage the preservation, reconstruction, and interpretation of the</td>
<td>1. Lobby for State financial support.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Heritage Committee</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Broad Top Railroad to become a major tourist resource.</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania Capital Budget</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Allegheny Heritage Development Corp.</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania Museum Commission</td>
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## HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTION PLAN (Continued)

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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Develop a first-time home buyers' program for Huntingdon County and support adequate leadership for the program. | 1. Convene a meeting of potential partners.  
2. Educate people on program opportunities.  
3. Pursue grant funding. | Huntingdon County Planning Commission  
Huntingdon County Housing Authority  
Huntingdon County Board of Realtors  
Banks and Mortgage Companies | HOME  
CDBG | High |       | Housing Plan |
| Support adequate local ordinances to assure high-quality residential environment. | 1. Review and possibly amend BOCA and Property Maintenance Code for local use.  
2. Develop shared administration. | Huntingdon County Planning Commission  
Huntingdon County Boroughs | General Funds for Admin | Medium | Needed to preserve housing quality. | Housing Plan |
| Continue the housing rehabilitation program | 1. Continue the County program.  
2. Encourage selective municipal or regional efforts. | Huntingdon County Planning Commission  
Weatherization, Inc.  
Local municipalities | CDBG, HOME, local | High |        | Housing Plan |
| Ensure that land use regulations do not unnecessarily increase the cost of housing. | 1. Develop standard for review.  
2. Review all adopted ordinances. | Huntingdon County Planning Commission  
Municipal Partners | Low Cost | Medium | This is a one-time effort. | Housing Plan |
| Support new avenues for affordable housing in cooperation with the Huntingdon County Housing Authority, and other entities. | 1. Develop a plan for public housing needs. | Huntingdon County Housing Authority | HUD | High |        | Housing Plan |
| Prepare National Register of Historical Places applications for honor and protection of resources. | 1. Work with communities and property owners. | Huntingdon County Heritage Committee  
Huntingdon County Historical Society  
Huntingdon County Planning Commission | General Funds | Medium | Owners of resources must be involved. | Historical and Cultural Plan |
### HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTION PLAN (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review local zoning ordinances to ensure compatibility to historic town planning and to encourage the reuse of historic structures.</td>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Integrate into new model zoning.</td>
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<td>2. Integrate into County's ordinance review process.</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
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<td>Owners of resources must be involved.</td>
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<td>Historical and Cultural Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinate both public and private actions in support of transportation improvements, including participation in the transportation planning process.</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Have model HARB and Overlay Zone text available.</td>
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<td>Assist those urban areas which need public water or sewer to implement Land Use Plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Contact communities to encourage application for County CDBG funds.</td>
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<td>2. Make knowledge of other infrastructure grants available.</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County Boroughs</td>
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<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
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<td>CDBG</td>
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<td>USDA</td>
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<td>PENNVEST</td>
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<td>Develop a County Park and Recreation Plan.</td>
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<td>1. Examine potential for municipal partnership.</td>
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<td>Partnering a must for success.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage formation of multi-municipal recreation commissions as a partnership of boroughs, townships, and school districts.</td>
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<td>1. Develop brief description of how Recreation Commission works.</td>
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<td>Encourage the update of Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plans where needed in the County.</td>
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<td>1. Contact communities with other plans.</td>
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<td>Ensure that 537 Sewage Facilities Plan mirror municipal and County Land Use Plans.</td>
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<td>1. Adopt County Comprehensive Plan.</td>
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<td>2. Integrate compatibility analysis into local reviews.</td>
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*Section IV: Action Plan*
**HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTION PLAN**

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<tr>
<td>Prepare a County Water Supply Plan and investigate implementation of wellhead protection measures.</td>
<td>1. Recruit municipal/Authority partners.</td>
<td>Municipalities Authorities Huntingdon County Planning Commission</td>
<td>DEP</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Consider Wellhead Protection element also.</td>
<td>Community Services and Facilities Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support the development and maintenance of trails, including: Lower Trail Extension, Investigate Huntingdon/Smithfield to Mount Union Trail.</td>
<td>1. Integrate into County-wide Park, Recreation, and Open Space Study.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Area Trail Organizations</td>
<td>Keystone Rails-to-Trail Grant</td>
<td>Long Range</td>
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<tr>
<td>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.).</td>
<td>1. Integrate into model zoning. 2. Integrate into land use review process.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Municipal Partners</td>
<td>SPAG Shared Municipal Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transportation Plan Land Use Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support limiting new access onto arterial roads through the PennDOT driveway permit process.</td>
<td>1. Comment on Highway Occupancy Permits in subdivision review.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission PennDOT</td>
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<td>High</td>
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<td>Transportation Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop appropriate standards for urban, suburban, and rural local roads.</td>
<td>1. Integrate into subdivision regulations.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Municipal Partners</td>
<td>SPAG Shared Municipal Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Transportation Plan Land Use Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus on State and Federal financial assistance on arterial highway needs.</td>
<td>1. Translate local priorities into regional and State transportation programs.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission PennDOT</td>
<td>Federal and State</td>
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<td>Follow established policy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinate both public and private actions in support of transportation improvements, including participation in the transportation planning process.</td>
<td>1. Take lead in presentation to PennDOT and the Transportation Commission.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Huntingdon County Business and Industry Municipalities</td>
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<td>Develop a County-level Transportation Information System.</td>
<td>1. Adapt the RPO model software to County needs.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
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<td>Underway</td>
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<td>Promote mass transit, rail, para-transit, and pedestrian intermodal options.</td>
<td>1. Develop a Regional Transit Plan.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission</td>
<td>Federal and State</td>
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<td>Transportation Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support better access to the Raystown Lake area through upgrading State and local highways.</td>
<td>1. Prioritize roads, State Road Assistance. 2. Assist townships - find funding for local roads.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Planning Commission PennDOT Municipalities</td>
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<td>Need to find funding for local roads.</td>
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**Section IV: Action Plan**
Glossary
### SUMMARY OF ACTION PLAN TOOLS BY FUTURE LAND USE TYPE

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*Primary Tool ✓ Secondary Tool *

*Section IV: Action Plan*
ACRONYMS

CDBG - Community Development Block Grant - Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Renewal but administered by DCED. Generally, funds must benefit low- or moderate-income residents.

DCED - Department of Community and Economic Development

DCNR - Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

DEP - Department of Environmental Protection

EDA - The Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce

HARB - Historic Architecture Review Board - a board used to review development required by Act 167 of 1961.

HUD - The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. A Federal source for program assistance for housing and community development needs.

LERTA - An acronym for a local real estate tax abatement program aimed at commercial and industrial properties.

PENNVEST - A low-interest infrastructure loan program of Pennsylvania.

RETAP - The residential equivalent to LERTA. However, the length of the abatement is limited to three years.

RPO - Rural Planning Organization - a multi-county (Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission) transportation planning group officially recognized by the State.

SCPAP - Small Communities Planning Assistance Program, a program offering grant assistance for planning. These are Federal funds administered by DCED. It has specific eligibility requirements.

SPAG - Small Planning Assistant Grant, a program offering grant assistance for planning (usually 50%) offered by DCED.
DEFINITIONS

Act 247 - The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. Known commonly as the Planning Code or MPC, this Act was adopted in 1968 and re-enacted with extensive amendments in 1988. It is the sole State law governing planning and related land use controls, such as zoning, subdivision and land development regulations, comprehensive plans, and official maps.

Act 537 Plan - Act 537, the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, requires that all municipalities in Pennsylvania prepare and periodically update a plan for the disposal of sewage in the municipality.

Adaptive Reuse - This practice involves the rehabilitation of older structures (often converting them to new uses) in a manner that preserves their original design. Examples include conversion of school buildings to apartments or an old home into offices.

Agricultural Security Areas - Pennsylvania Act 43 established the Agricultural Security Area law. It allows a municipality, typically a township, to establish an Agricultural Security Area after a petition by farmland owners. The total minimum involved land must be at least 250 acres. Agricultural Security Areas promote farming by limiting the official control of normal farming practices and limiting certain State or local development activities (new roads, etc.). See also PACE.

Big-Box Retailers - A reference to retail operations using large box-like buildings. With “super” stores of 100,000 to 130,000 square feet, some Wal-Mart and K-Mart operations are examples of this type of operation.

Buffer - An open area, either landscaped or natural, used to separate one use from another or protect a resource. Zoning often uses buffer strips as screens for parking lots or industrial uses. Buffers can also be used to prevent development from encroaching upon streams or wetlands.

Conservation Easement - The purchase of development rights to keep land in a natural state and preclude future development.

Controlled Access - The practice of limiting access to a primary road from abutting properties. This is usually accomplished by directing access to marginal streets or otherwise restricting vehicular traffic to the primary road.

Fair Housing - This refers to the Federal Fair Housing Act (1988) which was an amendment to Civil Rights legislation. In general terms, it prohibits discrimination in the sale or lease of housing based upon race, gender, familial status, or disability.

Goal - The end which a community strives to obtain. Goals are individual elements of an overall vision.

Greenway - A linear open space, usually along a natural corridor (stream valley, ridge line, etc.), often used to link natural features. Greenways can be publicly owned, a public easement, or in private ownership for such uses as recreation, agriculture, or forestry.

Growing Greener - A development process where new development can occur while maximizing land conservation techniques and maintaining overall building density.

HCPC - The Huntingdon County Planning Commission.

Historic Site/District - Historic Sites and Districts are designated by the United States Department of Interior maintains the National Register of Historic Places. Designation is accomplished by the submission of specific documentation concerning a site’s historic significance to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and their subsequent nomination to the Department of Interior. Local historic districts require regulatory compliance and may be created by any municipality in Pennsylvania, usually in areas on the National Register.

Impact Fees - It is a charge imposed on a new development to pay for the cost of offsite streets, sewers, waterlines, etc. to serve that development. In Pennsylvania, impact fees are focused on transportation.

Infrastructure - Facilities and services needed to sustain active land use – industrial, commercial, or residential. Usually people think of water and
sewer lines as well as roads when they use this term. However, it also includes electric, gas, telephone, cable, and can sometimes cover public services (safety, education, etc.).

Land Development Regulations - In Pennsylvania, local subdivision regulations may also apply to the development of individual lots involving either a single commercial building or multiple structures and/or uses (e.g., shopping center or apartment complex). These land development regulations typically address traffic circulation and parking, construction standards, site design, and provision of adequate utilities.

Limited Access - Roads like the Interstate system where there is no direct access to abutting properties and access is limited to certain road interchanges.

Micro-Business - This usually refers to small, owner-operated, businesses, with only one or two additional employees.

Model Ordinance - A model ordinance (e.g., zoning or subdivision regulation) is used to guide municipal decision-makers in developing local policy, while saving time and money. The model ordinance contains a general operational framework and administrative procedure as well as various optional provisions.

National Highway System (NHS) - Under recent transportation legislation, the Federal government has established a National Highway System. It includes the Interstate network and other key routes.

Neo-Traditional - A contemporary school of urban design which embraces the concepts of traditional urban or village neighborhoods, rather than replicating typical suburban patterns. This usually focuses on narrower lots, smaller front yards, sidewalks, porches, two-story dwellings, with alleys to access rear lot garages. It attempts to create the type of development common in the early 20th century to encourage a feeling of neighborhood and community.

Objective - A specific course of action (usually measurable) designed to implement a community goal or vision.

PACE - Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements. This program is generally county-initiated, though funding primarily comes from State and Federal funds. It involves the purchase of “development rights” from farmers assuring that land will be kept in agricultural use. The PACE program can only purchase development rights in designated Agricultural Security Areas.

Policy - A course of action designed to implement a community objective.

PRD - Planned Residential Development: A provision of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Article VII) which allows a mixture of housing, support uses and open space at densities higher than traditional zoning. It combines elements of both zoning and subdivision regulations.

Scenic Rivers - A scenic river is a river designated as “scenic” by either the State or Federal government. Such a river usually exhibits natural beauty, water quality, and recreation values, which are exemplary and worthy of protection under either the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act or the National Wild, and Scenic Rivers Act.

Sprawl - Uncontrolled growth, usually low-density residential developments, occurring in suburban and rural areas and some distance from either existing infrastructure or development.

Strip Development - Development, usually commercial, which follows a street or highway development. It lacks depth, extending one building deep along both sides of the highway.

Subdivision Regulations - Act 247 allows counties and municipalities to regulate land division, including setting approval procedures and design standards (e.g., new building lots and streets, adequate water and sewer facilities).

TEA-21 - This Federal transportation legislation, titled the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century, was passed in 1998.

Vision - A vision statement, based on community input and conveying a verbal picture of what the future will look like, is often developed during the early stages of a planning study to guide a planning team or project.
Wellhead Protection - Land controls which limits the exposure of wells used for public water supplies to the risk of toxic pollution. Normally, these controls are set up in three zones, with the degree of control greatest near the well.

Zoning - Article VI of the Planning Code allows counties and municipalities to adopt regulations relative to the use of land in specific districts, the intensity of use and spacing of buildings. Zoning allows specific areas or zoning districts to be created for appropriate uses, such as residential, commercial, or industrial. Zoning standards usually regulate lot size, density, building heights, setbacks, and yard spacing in each district.
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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*Huntingdon County Heritage Preservation Plan*. Huntingdon County Planning Commission, September 1990.


Glossary


Glossary


Glossary
Continuity Through Conservation II:

Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan
2007 Supplement
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.

This project was funded in part with a Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Grant (LUPTAP) from the State of Pennsylvania and Huntingdon County funds.
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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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Virginia Gill, Secretary Larry Pruss
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Herb Cole Carl Jaymes
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The Background Studies report is based, in part, on data from the Huntingdon County Geographic Information System.
SECTION I.

Background Studies
CHAPTER 2.

Population and Demographics

1. Population Change
2. Age and Gender Composition
3. Racial Composition
4. Household Size and Structure
5. Socioeconomic Characteristics
6. Population Projection - 2030
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population Change, 1810-2000</th>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Huntingdon County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1810</td>
<td>14,778</td>
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<td>1820</td>
<td>20,142</td>
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<td>1830</td>
<td>27,145</td>
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<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>35,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>24,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>28,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>31,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>33,954</td>
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<td>1890</td>
<td>35,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>34,650</td>
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<td>1910</td>
<td>38,304</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>39,808</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>39,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>41,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>40,877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>39,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>39,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>42,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>44,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>45,586</td>
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</table>

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)

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.
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.

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 Shireysburg 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
<table>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>2000 Population</th>
<th>1990 Population</th>
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<th>Percent Change</th>
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<td>45586</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>1014</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>Pop. change</td>
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<td>Birmingham borough</td>
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<td>409</td>
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<td>Frankfurt township</td>
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<td>415</td>
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<td>Warriors Mark township</td>
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<td>1375</td>
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<td>578</td>
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<td>3406</td>
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<td>553</td>
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<td>165</td>
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<td>1870</td>
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<td>889</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>12.94</td>
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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, Sallitalllo 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.
The crude fertility rate for Huntingdon County has declined and is 1.4 percent lower than the U.S. and almost 1/2 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, is 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 1/2 percent since 1990 resulting from the growth in black population, from 11.4 percent in 1990.
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 never married population 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 7.4 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

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*Births Minus Deaths, for the period
**Actual population minus potential population, for the period

Table 4
Population Immigration (Emigration), 1990-2000
Huntingdon County

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*Births Minus Deaths, for the period
**Actual population minus potential population, for the period
***2000 Census Data

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 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.

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.
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 in 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 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 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)
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 estimated 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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Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing and Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department Data
**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 figures represent a decrease from their 1990 figures except for Shirley Township which saw 18 percent increase in mobile homes from 1990-2000, the cause for this increase has yet to be determined.

**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).

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**

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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 0.05% 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

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<td>Bell Township</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Creek Township</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>12.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Township</td>
<td>1431</td>
<td>1515</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>5.86%</td>
</tr>
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<td>Sprouse Creek South</td>
<td>2852</td>
<td>3039</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>6.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derry Township</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>-86</td>
<td>-16.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Township</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarion Township</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Clarion Township</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>11.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk Township</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>6.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curwensville Township</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>8.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Huntingdon - total</td>
<td>2384</td>
<td>2793</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>17.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Huntingdon - avg</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>36.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Township</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>-51</td>
<td>-12.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Township</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>5.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peters Township</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>16.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Township</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>2155</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>12.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venango Valley</td>
<td>3476</td>
<td>3972</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>14.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Township</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>943</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>5.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringgold Township</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>7.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Township</td>
<td>1139</td>
<td>1210</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>6.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Township</td>
<td>4690</td>
<td>4950</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>5.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Township</td>
<td>1347</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>11.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon - total</td>
<td>14368</td>
<td>15000</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>4.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon - avg</td>
<td>3565</td>
<td>3700</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>3.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Township</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>8.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Township</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>8.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madicsburg Township</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etna Township</td>
<td>1854</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>6.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcock Valley - total</td>
<td>3142</td>
<td>3509</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>11.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcock Valley - avg</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>11.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Huntingdon County Planning &amp; Development Department</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 3.

Environmental Resources Analysis

1. Geology and Soils
2. Natural Heritage Inventory
3. Agriculture
4. Forestry
5. Mining
6. Water
7. Renewable Resources
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 Alleghripps, 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SLOPE CATEGORIES</th>
<th>Suitable Development Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>0-8%</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8-15%</strong></td>
<td>Intensive and large-scale land uses are less feasible; single-family high-density development is possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15-25%</strong></td>
<td>Scattered low-density residential development and other less intensive uses; these areas should be utilized only after less steeply sloped areas have been developed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Over 25%</strong></td>
<td>Generally unsuitable for building purposes; best suited to passive recreation and conservation areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Typically, topographical analysis of gradation 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; 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.
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 grey, 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 agrillaceous 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*. 

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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
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 acres 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.

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 feed.

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.
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 17
HYDRIC SOILS

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hydric Soils
Water
Roads
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. Department of Corrections - State Correctional Institution at Smithfield and SCI Huntingdon, located in Smithfield Township.
2. Game Commission - Division Offices
   a. Central Huntingdon County, Route 22, Huntingdon.
   b. Southcentral Regional Office, Huntingdon.
   c. Northern Huntingdon County, Alexandria.
3. Department of Health - State Health Center located at 900 Moore Avenue, Huntingdon.
4. Department of Labor and Industry - Job Center, Unemployment Compensation Claims located at 54 Pennsylvania Avenue, Huntingdon.
6. Department of Transportation
   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;
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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Mun. Bldg.</th>
<th>Name/ Meeting Place</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Description of Building and Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Scout House</td>
<td>P.O. Box 291, Alexandria</td>
<td>Corner of Shelton &amp; Bridge St., meeting, church groups, private rentals, Boy/Girl Scout meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barree Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Manor Hill</td>
<td>Borough meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Presbyterian Church</td>
<td></td>
<td>Borough meetings in church facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Route 655</td>
<td>1 Room for Bor. meetings, 1 larger room, garage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Bor.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>B.T. Community Ctr.</td>
<td>Broad Street</td>
<td>1 meeting room, kitchen, private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Community Bldg.</td>
<td>Star Route, Cassville</td>
<td>1 meeting room for Bor. and women - private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassville Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Community Bldg.</td>
<td>Star Route, Cassville</td>
<td>1 meeting room for Bor. and women - private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coalmont Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Hall</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Box 311</td>
<td>1 meeting room, small storage room, private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>State Route 2016</td>
<td>Meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Shade Can Fire Hall</td>
<td>Shade Can</td>
<td>Township uses for meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Community Bldg.</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>1 meeting room, office kitchen, private rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Stars Farm Office</td>
<td>Route 45</td>
<td>7 Stars Farm built office on premises for Twp. use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>Numer’s Hollow Road</td>
<td>Township meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td>630 Washington Street</td>
<td>All municipal functions and offices - also housed: 911 Center, Police, holding cell, patrol room, Council Chambers, conference room, Chamber of Commerce, arrest office, new satellite training room and lockers on basement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>McAlveys Fort Fire Hall</td>
<td>PA 26, McAlveys's Fort</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Twp.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Cemetery Road</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 building schoolhouse for Twp. meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Twp.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Box 366</td>
<td>Meeting is 2nd Monday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Bor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Borough Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elections, meetings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 250 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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #67</td>
<td>Carbon &amp; Todd Twps.</td>
<td>6 &amp; 9</td>
<td>5,724.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #71</td>
<td>Shirley and Union Twps.</td>
<td>6 &amp; 7</td>
<td>5,204.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #73</td>
<td>Hopewell &amp; Lincoln Twps.</td>
<td>5 &amp; 9</td>
<td>2,373.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #81</td>
<td>Dublin and Springfield Twps.</td>
<td>8 &amp; 10</td>
<td>2,433.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #99</td>
<td>Cass, Clay &amp; Cromwell Twps.</td>
<td>6 &amp; 8</td>
<td>4,440.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #112</td>
<td>Brady, Henderson &amp; Miller Twps.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 11</td>
<td>6,438.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #118</td>
<td>Penn, Porter &amp; Walker Twps.</td>
<td>3, 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>1,413.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #121</td>
<td>Clay, Todd &amp; Wood Twps.</td>
<td>6, 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>2,207.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #131</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Twp.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>308.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #166</td>
<td>Morris Twp.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>347.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #251</td>
<td>Dublin &amp; Tell Twps.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4,221.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #278</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Twp.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>242.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Game Lands #322</td>
<td>Logan &amp; Oneida Twps.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2,869.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>38,224.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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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

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

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City</td>
<td>Broad Top City Ballfield</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Little League Ball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City</td>
<td>Homecoming Grounds</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Fairgrounds, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Township</td>
<td>Middletown Playground</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Pavilion, ball field, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassville Borough</td>
<td>Cassville Park</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Community building, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Township</td>
<td>Harper Memorial Park</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Fairgrounds, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Borough</td>
<td>Dudley Ball Field</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Borough</td>
<td>Dudley Historic Site</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Historic exhibit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Detweiler Memorial Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Picnic tables, horseshoe pits, softball field, soccer field, track, social building, kids playground area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Isett Memorial Pool</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Swimming pool, bathhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Blair Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Picnic tables, gazebo, trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Blairs Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Flag Pole Hill</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Picnic area, trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>West End Playground</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball field, playground, basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>The Cliffs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Scenic views, trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Township</td>
<td>Petersburg Ball Field</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady Township</td>
<td>Riverside Park</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball field, boat ramp, pavilion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Borough</td>
<td>Mapleton Swimming Pool</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Swimming pool, bathhouse, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Borough</td>
<td>Mapleton Courts</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Tennis Court, Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Borough</td>
<td>Mill Creek Playground</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Picnic tables, baseball field, community building, playground equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Diven Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Playground, basketball court, tennis courts, splash fountain, athletic field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Upper Municipal Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Baseball fields, basketball court, tennis court, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Lower Municipal Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Baseball fields, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Catholic Hill Playground</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball field, tennis court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Riverside Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Picnic pavilion, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Alexandria-Porter Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirleysburg Borough</td>
<td>Shirleysburg Park</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Community building, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltillo Borough</td>
<td>Saltillo Community Center</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Basketball court, playground equipment, baseball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Acreage</td>
<td>Ownership</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltillo Borough</td>
<td>Jaycees Gym</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Gymnasium, community meeting room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Township</td>
<td>Riverside Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Pavilions, horse shoe pits, picnic tables, walking paths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Borough</td>
<td>Three Spring Square</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Passive sitting area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Borough</td>
<td>Three Springs Park</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Base ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Borough</td>
<td>Municipal Pool</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>Swimming Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township</td>
<td>Bouquet Springs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Artesian spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township</td>
<td>Municipal Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Pavilion, ball field, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Township</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Ball field</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Township</td>
<td>Shavers Creek Community Building</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Community Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Township</td>
<td>J.A. Carney Athletic Field</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>Ball field, basketball court, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Township</td>
<td>Huntingdon Square Playground</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Baseball field, concession stand, playground equipment, picnic pavilion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>399.4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barree Township</td>
<td>Stone Valley Recreation Area</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td>PSU</td>
<td>Rental cottages, group lodges, boat rental, 75 acre lake, picnic tables, trails, Shavers Creek Environmental Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay Township</td>
<td>Spring Farm Elementary School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Township</td>
<td>Southern Huntingdon County High School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Tennis courts, football field, track, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Township</td>
<td>Shade Gap Elementary School</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, basketball court, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Huntingdon High School Campus</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Gymnasium (2), indoor pool, tennis courts, softball and soccer fields, cross country course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Huntingdon Christian Academy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Standing Stone Elementary School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>War Veterans Memorial Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Football Field, all weather track, bleachers, concession stands, field house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Township</td>
<td>Jackson Miller Elementary School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Ball field, basketball court, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Borough</td>
<td>Brady-Henderson Elementary School</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Mount Union High School</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Ball field, football field, track, softball and baseball fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>Former Elementary School</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Juniata Valley High School</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Football Field, track, bleachers, concession stand, basketball court, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Juniata Valley Elementary School</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill Borough</td>
<td>Rockhill Elementary School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Ball field, playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Township</td>
<td>Shirley Elementary School</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Township</td>
<td>Trough Creek Elementary School</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Township</td>
<td>Mapleton Elementary School</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township</td>
<td>Southside Elementary School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Township</td>
<td>Robertsdale Elementary School</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Playground, gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>NA</strong></td>
<td><strong>NA</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,981.2</strong></td>
<td><strong>NA</strong></td>
<td><strong>NA</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allenport (Shirley Township)</td>
<td>Raystown Roller Rink</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Roller skating rink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham Borough</td>
<td>Grier School</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Stables, riding and jumping ring, trails, private gym, pool, tennis courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Township</td>
<td>Latta Grove (Barneytown) Comm.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Baseball and softball field, basketball court, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay Township</td>
<td>Calvary Baptist Church Playground</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Picnic tables, playground equipment, baseball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Township</td>
<td>Aughwic Campground</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>40 campsite facilities, picnic pavilion, field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Township</td>
<td>Shade Gap Motocross Course</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Motocross course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Township</td>
<td>Bailyville Softball Field</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Softball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Township</td>
<td>Indian Caverns</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Cave, guided tours, souvenir shop, picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Township</td>
<td>Holiday Bowl</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Bowling lanes, rental and sales shops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Township</td>
<td>Sunny Ridge Retreat</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Rental property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Township</td>
<td>Four Leaf Clover Campground</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>RV park, tent sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Township</td>
<td>Raystown Lakehouse</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Guest house rental/Lake view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Township</td>
<td>Shy Beaver RV Park</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>RV Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Township</td>
<td>The Bryan House</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Guest house rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopewell Township</td>
<td>Giles Campground</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>45 seasonal campsites/facilities, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Calvary Independent Baptist Church</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>softball field, soccer field, basketball gymnasium, playground equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Huntingdon Community Center</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>2 gymnasiums, 1 leased to Center by the at Municipal Building, locker rooms,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>meeting room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Juniata Trail Portstown Area</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.5 mile</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>1/2 mile improved Riverbank trail, picnic tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Juniata College</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>2 gymnasia, tennis courts, baseball field, library, children's playground,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>art exhibit gallery, track, football field, field space, basketball courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough</td>
<td>Baker Peace Chapel</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Cross country course, field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Township</td>
<td>Uncle Joe's Vacation Rental</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Vacation rentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Acreage</td>
<td>Ownership</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Township</td>
<td>Ripka's Cottages</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Cabin rentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Township</td>
<td>Lake Raystown Family Camping</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Family camping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Township</td>
<td>Hemlock Hideaway Campground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Camping facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Township</td>
<td>Proud Mary</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Passenger excursion craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Township</td>
<td>Raystown Raceway</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Go-carts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Township</td>
<td>Warriors Ridge Dam Access Area</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Boat launch area, fishing area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Township</td>
<td>Standing Stone Golf Club</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>18-hole golf course, driving range, putting green, pool, club house, pro shop, lounge &amp; locker room, kid pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Township</td>
<td>Stone Valley Lions Park</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Picnic tables with shelters, field space, covered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Township</td>
<td>Scot Grugen Memorial Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Soccer fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Allegriss Campground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Camp sites/facilities, playground equipment, pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Hesston Speedway</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>1/2 mile track, grandstand, concession stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Eastman’s Miniature Golf</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Miniature golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Boyer's Campground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Camping, comfort facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Woodland Camping</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Camping, comfort facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Pleasant Hills Campground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Camping, comfort facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Lake Cottages</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Air conditioned cabins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Lay-Z Pine Lane Cabin</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Secluded cabins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Seven Points Vacation Rentals</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Vacation rentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Seven Points Marina/Cruises</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Houseboat rentals, marina, dinner and sight seeing cruises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Jim's Anchorage</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Boat sales, service and storage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Seven Points Bait &amp; Grocery</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Live bait, tackle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Township</td>
<td>Raystown Belle &amp; Raystown Queen</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>49-passenger excursion craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Lincoln Caverns</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Cave, tours, picnic area, information and souvenir shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Edgewater Acres</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Horseback riding, swimming, golf, volleyball, badminton, basketball courts, shuffleboard, table games, dining, lounge, sleeping quarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Pulpit Rocks</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Rock climbing, historic landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Zebrovka Bison Ranch</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Live bison, Indian mementos, tribal activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Township</td>
<td>Huntingdon Horsemen' Grounds</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Stables and ring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill Borough</td>
<td>East Broad Top Railroad</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Narrow gauge railroad, train, tracks, historic buildings, tour and visitor center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill Borough</td>
<td>Iron Rail Bed and Breakfast</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Sleeping accommodations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Acreage</td>
<td>Ownership</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Township</td>
<td>V.F.W. Memorial Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Horseshoe pits, marble courts, baseball field, bleachers, softball field, concession stand, dugouts, field space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield and Walker Townships</td>
<td>Huntingdon Country Club</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>18-hole golf course, swimming pool, club house, banquet facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Township</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Fairgrounds</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Pavilions, grandstand, track, livestock buildings, campsite, comfort facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Township</td>
<td>Lane's Country Homestead</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Sleeping accommodations, picnic tables, fishing pond, golf course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Township</td>
<td>Lane's Pine Lodge</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Guest home rental, playground equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Township</td>
<td>Shady Maple Campground</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>40 sites/facilities, picnic pavilions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Township</td>
<td>Beavertown Bible Church</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Gymnasium, softball field, picnic pavilion, playground equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Township</td>
<td>Bitter Goose Lodge</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Lodge rental, sleeping accommodations, tent sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township</td>
<td>Wood Valley Wrangler Horse Ring</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Riding ring, bridle paths, comfort facilities, concession stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township</td>
<td>McConnellburg Playhouse</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Community Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township</td>
<td>Shenecoy Field</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Skeet, trap, rifle range, picnic tables, comfort facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark Township</td>
<td>Warriors Mark Fire Department</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Picnic tables, concession stand, kitchen, ball field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1442.5</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 22
LIBRARIES AND MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Libraries
Municipal Buildings
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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Boro.</td>
<td>Hartslog Heritage</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>Historic Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brady Twp.</td>
<td>1,000 Steps</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Historic Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Twp.</td>
<td>Isitt Acres</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>Antique Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson Twp.</td>
<td>Swigart</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Antique Autos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Boro.</td>
<td>Juniata College Museum of Art</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>Art Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Boro.</td>
<td>Huntingdon County Historical Society</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>Museum with Exhibit Galleries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Boro.</td>
<td>Sharrar House and Brick Company Museum</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>Historic Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill Boro.</td>
<td>East Broad Top Railroad</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Operating Historic Steam Railroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockhill Boro.</td>
<td>Railways to Yesterday</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>Trolley Ride and Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Twp.</td>
<td>Broad Top Coal Miners</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Museum and Theater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Name</th>
<th>Full-Time Officers</th>
<th>Part-Time/ Others</th>
<th>Vehicles</th>
<th>Special Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA State Police (Huntingdon Barracks)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14 radio equipped</td>
<td>Helicopter available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon County Sheriff's Office</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7 radio equipped</td>
<td>Availability of 3 police canines and horse mounted search and rescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Borough Police Dept.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5 radio equipped</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniata Valley Regional Police Dept.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1 radio equipped</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Police Dept.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 radio equipped</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Number and Type of Units</th>
<th>Special Services</th>
<th>Active Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Volunteer Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 252, Alexandria</td>
<td>6 (2 pumpers, service truck, tanker, mini pumper)</td>
<td>Rescue Tools, air bags, jaws of life</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Volunteer Fire Dept. / Hook and Ladder Co.</td>
<td>1301 Washington St., Huntingdon</td>
<td>4 (2 ladder truck, brush truck, 2 engine, 1 rescue unit)</td>
<td>Ladder truck, jaws of life</td>
<td>35-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Depot Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Main St., Mapleton Depot</td>
<td>4 (engine, 1 rescue, brush truck)</td>
<td>Scuba, rope rescue</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 405, James Creek</td>
<td>6 (2 ambulances, 2 pumpers, tanker, brush unit)</td>
<td>Light rescue, first response</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McConnellstown Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>McConnellstown</td>
<td>5 (2 pumpers, tanker, rescue unit, brush unit)</td>
<td>Light rescue, first response</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>2 (tanker, pumper)</td>
<td>First Responders</td>
<td>35-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>120 S. Division St., Mt. Union</td>
<td>7 (3 engines, 3 ambulances, rescue truck)</td>
<td>Scuba divers, jaws of Life</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Township Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>R.D. #4, Huntingdon</td>
<td>2 (engine, tanker)</td>
<td>First Responders</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia-Rockhill Vol. Fire Dept.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 186, Orbisonia</td>
<td>5 (2 engines, 3 ambulances, tanker, brush truck)</td>
<td>Rescue unit with tanker</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 68, Petersburg</td>
<td>5 (2 pumpers, 2 tankers, 1 1st responders, squad vehicle)</td>
<td>First Responders</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robertsdale-Wood-Broad Top City Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 8, Robertsdale</td>
<td>6 (2 pumpers, 1 tanker, 2 ambulances)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Gap Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Shade Gap</td>
<td>3 (engine, tanker, mini-pumper)</td>
<td>First responders jaws of Life</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shavers Creek Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>R.D., Petersburg</td>
<td>5 (2 engines, tanker and brush truck)</td>
<td>Jaws of Life</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Number and Type of Units</th>
<th>Special Services</th>
<th>Active Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Firehouse Lane, Huntingdon</td>
<td>5 (2 engines, 1 ladder truck, brush truck)</td>
<td>Special Unit, air cylinders, salvage equip., First Responders, Ladder Truck</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Creek Valley Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>R.D. #1, Petersburg</td>
<td>4 (engine, brush unit, tanker, 1st responder, rescue)</td>
<td>Jaws of Life, First Responders</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>Three Springs</td>
<td>3 (3 pumpers)</td>
<td>Jaws of Life</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trough Creek Valley Vol. Fire Co.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 22, Cassville</td>
<td>6 (2 pumpers, 1 tanker, 1 brush truck, 1 special unit, 1 equipment truck)</td>
<td>Jaws of life, First Responders</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
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.

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 McMurtie 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.

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, online 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
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. **Huntingdon Family Planning** - 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. **Juniata Valley Tri-County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission** - 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. **Mental Health/Mental Retardation** - Located at 905 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Deals with a wide range of problems from mild depression to severe mental illness.

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

7. **State Health Center** - 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. **Huntingdon Manor Nursing Home** - A private facility adjacent, but unrelated, to J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, PA 16652. Contains 93 beds.

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

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


**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. **Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development, Inc.** - 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. **Early Childhood Education Center** - 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. **Jack and Jill Nursery School** - 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. **Alexandria Senior Center** - 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. See Map 25 for the locations of all public water facilities.

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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Average Daily Consumption</th>
<th>Max. Daily Cons.</th>
<th>Customers</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Short-Range Needs</th>
<th>Long-Range Needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Borough Water Authority</td>
<td>99,245 gpd</td>
<td>281,070 gpd</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>Reservoir - 3.5 mg. Tank 191,000 gal.</td>
<td>Installation of 6” pipe on Shelton Avenue</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Borough Water Authority</td>
<td>32,911 gpd</td>
<td>56,000 gpd</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>Tank - 127,000 gal.</td>
<td>Drill new well and connect to system, link with Dudley System</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherrytown Water Company</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Reservoir - 10,000 gallon</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley, Carbon, Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>19,437 gpd</td>
<td>83,500 gpd</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>new meters</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood Furnace State Park</td>
<td>3,414 gpd</td>
<td>4,365 gpd</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>134,600 gal. underground water tank</td>
<td>new hook-ups for water</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Water Filtration Plant</td>
<td>1,465,000 gpd</td>
<td>2,000,000 gpd</td>
<td>2901</td>
<td>2 : 3 mg tanks, 1; 300,000 gal.</td>
<td>Replace distribution lines = $150,000/year indefinitely</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Municipal Authority</td>
<td>59,448 gpd</td>
<td>126,290 gpd</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>Reservoir 134,000 gal. &amp; 160,000 gal.</td>
<td>Install 8” water main/improvements to Dam &amp; Settling pond</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority</td>
<td>73,305 gpd</td>
<td>112,300 gpd</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough</td>
<td>600,000 gpd</td>
<td>750,000</td>
<td>2086</td>
<td>Tanks</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neelyton Water Co-Op</td>
<td>5,600 gpd</td>
<td>6,800 gpd</td>
<td>Res. Cust.</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia/Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>98,935 gpd</td>
<td>148,430 gpd</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>New storage tank in Rockhill Borough, $250,000</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg Borough Authority</td>
<td>48,140 gpd</td>
<td>72,000 gpd</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>1,000,000 in Reservoir; 313,000 gal. in tank</td>
<td>Piggling of main line, replacement of some of the main line</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothrock Water Treatment Plant</td>
<td>120,000 gpd</td>
<td>360,000 gpd</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

55
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Average Daily Consumption</th>
<th>Max. Daily Cons.</th>
<th>Customers</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Short-Range Needs</th>
<th>Long-Range Needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saltillo Water Company</td>
<td>38,013 gpd</td>
<td>64,894 gpd</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>88,000 gal.</td>
<td>new well</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI - Huntingdon</td>
<td>395,833 gpd</td>
<td>502,000 gpd</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven Points Water Treatment Plant</td>
<td>13,000 gpd</td>
<td>72,000 gpd</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shireysburg Municipal Authority</td>
<td>8,662 gpd</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Correctional Institution</td>
<td>500,000 gpd</td>
<td>650,000 gpd</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>Currently constructing Filtration plant &amp; Chemical Treatment Facility</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Springs Borough Water System</td>
<td>66,597 gpd</td>
<td>112,290 gpd</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>Reservoir - 75,000 gal, 2: 25,000 gal tanks</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trough Creek State Park</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>new well @ newly constructed park office</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Township Water Treatment Plant</td>
<td>93,182 gpd</td>
<td>140,954 gpd</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>tank - 500,000 gal.</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriors Mark General Authority</td>
<td>49,826 gpd</td>
<td>75,402 gpd</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>replace 3000' of lines</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood, Broad Top, Wells, Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>46,685 gpd</td>
<td>82,000 gpd</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>new system - waiting for FHA funds</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department

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### TABLE 21
**SEWAGE SYSTEM SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Borough - Porter Twp. Joint Sewer Auth.</td>
<td>105,000 gpd</td>
<td>240,000 gpd</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Extend sewer line to Davis Way.</td>
<td>Extension of sewer to areas of Porter Twp indicated in the Act 537 Plan; improved sludge handling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Wastewater Treatment Plant</td>
<td>40,000 gpd</td>
<td>65,000 gpd</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassville Water &amp; Sewer Authority</td>
<td>16,000 gpd</td>
<td>30,000 gpd</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley, Carbon, Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>27000 gpd</td>
<td>70,000 gpd</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1995, 2002</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood Furnace State Park</td>
<td>4,000 gpd</td>
<td>10,000 gpd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Extend sewer lines</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hesston Wastewater System</td>
<td>6,000 gpd</td>
<td>15,000 gpd</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1989, amended in 1992 and 2006</td>
<td>Correct infiltration and inflow.</td>
<td>Connect collection system to Walker Twp system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntingdon Waste Water Treatment Facility</td>
<td>3,000,000 gpd</td>
<td>4,000,000 gpd</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>combined</td>
<td>1989, amended in 1994 &amp; 2007</td>
<td>$10,700,000 to meet Chesapeake Bay Stds</td>
<td>$15,000,000 to separate combined sewers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapleton Area Wastewater Treatment Facility</td>
<td>48,000 gpd</td>
<td>100,000 gpd</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Borough</td>
<td>8000 gpd</td>
<td>12,000 gpd</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority</td>
<td>72000 gpd</td>
<td>120,000 gpd</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Borough Sewer</td>
<td>357,000 gpd</td>
<td>604,000 gpd</td>
<td>1195 (2,044 EDU)</td>
<td>minimal combined</td>
<td>1995, amended in 1999</td>
<td>Disconnect interconnected storm sewers, identify and remedy I&amp;I, minor upgrades.</td>
<td>Meet Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oncida Twp. Waste Water Collection System</td>
<td>20000 gpd</td>
<td>111,000 gpd</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>79,000 gpd</td>
<td>200,000 gpd</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>$1.65 million upgrade to 100,000/300,000 gpd capacity</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg Sewer Department</td>
<td>80,000 gpd</td>
<td>100,000 gpd</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothrock Sewage Treatment Plant</td>
<td>180,000 gpd</td>
<td>100,000 gpd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven Points Recreation Area Sewer Treatment Plant</td>
<td>8000 gpd</td>
<td>60,000 gpd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Gap Area Joint Municipal Authority</td>
<td>30,000 gpd</td>
<td>65,000 gpd</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Township Authority</td>
<td>127,000 gpd</td>
<td>500,000 gpd</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>1996, amended 2001</td>
<td>Infiltration and inflow identification and I &amp; I reduction plan, pump station upgrade</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Creek Joint Sewer Authority</td>
<td>88,000 gpd</td>
<td>110,000 gpd</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>separate</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Twp. Waste Water Collection System</td>
<td>98,350 gpd</td>
<td>108,350 gpd</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood, Broad Top, Wells Joint Municipal</td>
<td>55,000 gpd</td>
<td>84,000 gpd</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 24
EMERGENCY SERVICES

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- Police Stations
- Fire Stations
- Ambulance Stations
CHAPTER 5.

Land Use

1. Land Use Characteristics: An Overview
2. Existing Land Use Characteristics
   A. Agricultural and Vacant
   B. Commercial
   C. Forest
   D. Industrial
   E. Institutional
   F. Mining and Quarrying
   G. Transportation, Communication and Utilities
   H. Water
3. Municipal Ordinances
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.
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

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

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.
### TABLE 23
**EXISTING LAND USE - 2007**
Huntingdon County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Acres (GIS)</th>
<th>Percent of County</th>
<th>Percent of Developed Land</th>
<th>Percent of Developed (less agriculture)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>20,250</td>
<td>3.56%</td>
<td>12.12%</td>
<td>59.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>0.52%</td>
<td>2.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>0.16%</td>
<td>0.53%</td>
<td>2.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strip Mines/Quarries</td>
<td>1,081</td>
<td>0.19%</td>
<td>0.65%</td>
<td>3.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional (formerly Public)</td>
<td>1,263</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
<td>0.76%</td>
<td>3.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>3,079</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
<td>1.84%</td>
<td>9.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, Communication and Utilities (formerly Streets)</td>
<td>6,606</td>
<td>1.16%</td>
<td>3.95%</td>
<td>19.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL DEVELOPED (Agr.)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural &amp; Vacant</td>
<td>99,259</td>
<td>17.42%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL DEVELOPED</td>
<td>167,094</td>
<td>29.38%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest (open wooded land including public lands)</th>
<th>Acres (GIS)</th>
<th>Percent of County</th>
<th>Percent of Developed Land</th>
<th>Percent of Developed (less agriculture)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>424,547</td>
<td>74.65%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Public Lands (included in forest)              | 140,197     | 24.6%             |                           |                                        |
|                                                 | 10,855      | 1.95%             |                           |                                        |
| TOTAL UNDEVELOPED                               | 435,621     | 76.60%            |                           |                                        |
| TOTAL COUNTY                                   | 568,694.0   | 100.0%            |                           |                                        |

**注** *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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Acres (GIS)</th>
<th>Percent of County</th>
<th>Percent of Developed Land</th>
<th>Percent of Developed (less agriculture)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Residential</td>
<td>4,510.5</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Residential</td>
<td>8,329.0</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>540.5</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>496.4</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public &amp; Semi-Public</td>
<td>986.5</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 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   | 74.9%             |                           |                                        |
| 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

---

67
Table 25
Huntingdon County
Public Lands - 2007

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

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPALITY</th>
<th>COMP PLAN</th>
<th>SUBDIVISION ORD</th>
<th>ZONING ORD</th>
<th>FLOOD/DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ORD</th>
<th>UNIFORM CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barree Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brady Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broad Top City Boro</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carbon Twp</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cass Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassville Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clay Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Coalmont Boro</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Cromwell Twp</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Dublin Twp</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dudley Boro</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Henderson Twp</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Jackson Twp</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniata Twp</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Lincoln Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logan Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mapleton Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marklesburg Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPALITY</th>
<th>COMP PLAN</th>
<th>SUBDIVISION ORD</th>
<th>ZONING ORD</th>
<th>FLOOD/DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ORD</th>
<th>UNIFORM CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miller Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union Boro</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Twp</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbisonia Boro</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Twp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg Boro</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Twp</td>
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<td>Rockhill Boro</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Shirleysburg Boro</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield Twp</td>
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Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
### TABLE 27
HUNTINGDON COUNTY GREENWAY PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Project/Corridor Name</th>
<th>Total Project Length (miles)</th>
<th>Length of Trail Constructed (miles)</th>
<th>Length of Water Trail (miles)</th>
<th>Unimproved Project Corridor (acres)</th>
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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 acres) 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.
SECTION II.

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 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 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.**

**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 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.

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

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.

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.**

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.).

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 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.

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.
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. Huntingdon 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.
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:
   3. Alexandria - currently in preparation
   4. Shireysburg - 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&B 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.

**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: HUNI 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 Hartslag 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).
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.

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 which 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.


**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 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 life 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.


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.

8. Develop “Know Huntingdon County” material for school systems.

9. Prepare a Huntingdon County Historic profile.

10. Prepare a Huntingdon County Natural Resources Inventory.
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 agritourism; 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.

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

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.

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.
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. Huntingdon 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.
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.


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 life 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.


**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.

8. Develop “Know Huntingdon County” material for school systems.

9. Prepare a Huntingdon County Historic profile.

10. Prepare a Huntingdon County Natural Resources Inventory.
SECTION III.

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.
  - 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 I) 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 of 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 grantmaker, 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 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 accessible 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.
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<th>Low-Intensity Uses/Conservation</th>
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*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 linear 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."

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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 Security 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 than 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, and 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.

Bibliography
BIBLIOGRAPHY


Huntingdon County Natural Heritage Inventory, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, 2004.


APPENDIX A

Land Use Inventory by Municipality and Planning Region
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Source: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ESRI
Huntington County Planning & Development Department
APPENDIX B

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
Springfield Township
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
Calcareaous 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
Calcareaous 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
Springfield Township
Habitat for a globally rare animal species of special concern.

Barree Limestone Barren BDA
Logan Township, Porter Township
Calcareaous 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
Calcareaous 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 a population 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 evening-primrose.

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 state-endangered 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
Springfield Township
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.