



# Discover Duncannon

## A Susquehanna Greenway River Town



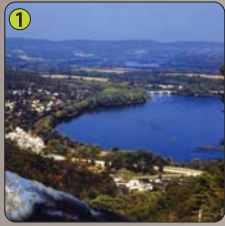
### The River and the Bay

With a watershed of nearly 28,000 square miles, the Susquehanna River supplies the Chesapeake Bay with fifty percent of its fresh water (24 billion gallons) on a typical day.

**Duncannon** is an historic, authentic river town noted for the quiet atmosphere and majestic setting that it offers just outside the Harrisburg metropolitan area. The Borough lies immediately downstream of the Juniata-Susquehanna River confluence at Clarks Ferry. Its setting is naturally and historically significant and the town was favorably positioned as a trading crossroads in Pennsylvania's colonial era. From Conestoga freight wagons to canals, railroads, and highways, the Duncannon townscape is intertwined with the region's transportation history. Its proximity to the Kittatinny Ridge—one of the most prominent natural features intersecting the lower Susquehanna—places Duncannon at the heart of the Maine to Georgia Appalachian Trail.

## Live, Learn, Explore

These are just a few of the many places in and around Duncannon for you to discover. The numbers below correspond to those on the map to the right. Learn more about these and other places at [www.susquehannagreenway.org](http://www.susquehannagreenway.org)



### Hawk Rock

This rocky promontory offers sweeping views of the Duncannon area. It's a stop on the Audubon's Susquehanna River Birding and Wildlife Trail, and a famous rest stop for hikers on the Appalachian Trail (A.T.). Duncannon is known as the effective halfway point of the 2,180 mile trail that traverses the East Coast of America from Georgia to Maine.



### Duncannon Square

The historic center of town is found at Duncannon Square where Market and Cumberland Street meet. This early 1900's view of the square looks towards the Doyle Hotel which today serves as a popular stopover for hikers. The Square is an excellent area from which to begin exploring the town, including historic churches and other notable buildings in the area.



### Old Sled Works

"Lightning Guider Sleds" were produced here between 1904 and 1988 by the Standard Novelty Works. In 1920 the plant was credited with producing more children's sleds than any other U.S. factory; its capacity was then 1,600 to 1,800 per day. Today, the property is also home to the 110-foot tall Dauphin Water Gap fire lookout tower which was built in the 1940's and relocated here in 1998.



### Clarks Ferry Tavern

Now home to the oldest standing structure in town, this site served as the western landing of Clarks Ferry, tavern, stage stop and inn, post office, and later as civil war recruiting office. Ferry boats crossed the Susquehanna from the end of Peters Mountain to where Clarks Run flows into the river. Native Americans once had a fording here, followed by traders and pioneers with Conestoga wagons traveling westward along the first through-road to Huntingdon and Pittsburgh.



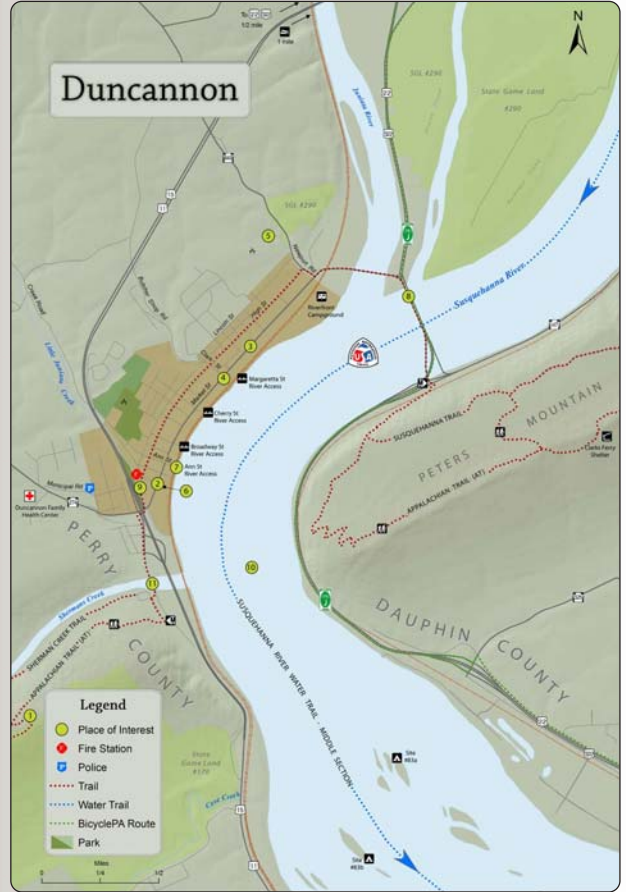
### The Old Log Church

In 1970, the Duncannon Presbyterian Church built a replica of the former 1804 log church at the hillside site where it once stood. The original church measured 25 feet by 34 feet and was constructed of hand-hewn logs and rough-sawn timber with simple shuttered windows. The original church had been described as the "cradle" of religious influence in the area during the early 19th century.



### Pennsylvania Station

Duncannon developed as an important hub for land and water based travel and transport. This railroad station was completed in 1902 when the mainline was changed to run along the Susquehanna River. The original line, opened in 1849, was the main line to the west and two tracks ran through the center of town on what is now the Apple Tree AlleyWalk corridor.



## Additional Places of Interest

- 7 **Ann Street Arch** – Four stone arch viaducts under the railroad offer access to the Susquehanna River for enjoying scenic views of the river and ridge, paddling and fishing. The shallow waters in this area are renowned for smallmouth bass fishing and the Kittatinny Ridge to the south is a globally-significant migration flyway used annually by tens of thousands of raptors and vultures and millions of songbirds.
- 8 **Clarks Ferry Bridge** – The bridge was once known as the "longest wooden bridge in the world" and was part of the canal system, primarily being used for the horses towing canal boats across the Susquehanna. Four canals met at Clarks Ferry Bridge in Duncannon: the Eastern, Juniata, Susquehanna and Wisconsin divisions.
- 9 **High Street Bridge and Noye Park** – This bridge which provides access to Noye Park over Little Juniata Creek was determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the 2001 Pennsylvania Historic Bridge Survey. It is a one-span, five-panel, pin connected metal lenticular pony truss bridge built ca. 1890, which is a rare bridge type and design. Built by Berlin Iron Bridge Company of Berlin, CT, it is a surviving example that documents a historically important variation in late 19th century metal truss technology.
- 10 **Susquehanna Water Gaps** – The "Water Gaps" are a series of 5 gaps cut through the ridges by the Susquehanna River between Liverpool to north of Harrisburg. This beautiful area has been designated a "National Natural Landmark" by the National Park Service for its outstanding views of the geological process resulting in water gaps.
- 11 **Shermans Creek Bridge Viewpoint** – Sherman's Creek is a scenic tributary of the Susquehanna that drains the greater part of western Perry County. Its history dates back to provincial times, when it was crossed by the first main trail to the West, known as the Allegheny Path. Many old-fashioned up-and-down sawmills and gristmills once lined its banks – in fact, it was one of the oldest streams which drove the machinery of the many pioneer mills of which Perry County was noted and from along its banks these supplies were transported to Continental armies.

