

Healthy
Sustainable
Susquehanna
Communities

eConnections

June



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Transportation Funds Would Benefit River Communities

With over 9,000 miles of roads in poor condition and 4,400 structurally deficient bridges, it's obvious that the current level of state transportation funding does not safely meet our needs.

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership joins with other members of the Keystone Transportation Funding Coalition (KTFC) to support passage of a \$2.5 billion comprehensive funding bill this year.

In general, passage of a bill will positively impact Susquehanna Greenway communities by increasing the levels of funding for multi-modal transportation programs. Robust multi-modal systems help to **promote tourism** and recreational use of our region's water and land trails, **reduce congestion** on roads, and promote in-fill development that **preserves green space** and supports vibrant small towns!

[Tell your legislator](#) to maintain support at \$30 million for the multi-modal transportation fund and that projects should specifically include:

- \$10 million for recreational bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Scenic overlooks and land conservation easements along transportation corridors
- [Improvements to stream and river access as part of bridge and road projects](#)

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Susquehanna Greenway Partnership



[Our Website](#)

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Your gift will help us protect the natural and cultural resources of the Susquehanna, revitalize river communities and build connected parks, trails, and public river access points.



Our Mission

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is a leading champion for the Susquehanna River Watershed, Pennsylvania's most important natural resource and the largest tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. We work to advance for public and private efforts to connect people with our natural and cultural resources, and promote a sustainable and healthy environment.

Volunteers Needed

Thank you for supporting bike, pedestrian, and river connections along the Susquehanna Greenway!

Greenway Mini-Grant: Wilkes-Barre Bike Share Brochure

Each month learn about a local project being funded through the Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant Program that is helping to build the Greenway and connect people to the Susquehanna River. The program is funded in part by the PA Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources.



Bikes adorned with bells and baskets can be often be seen cruising the paved Susquehanna River Levee Trail around the city of Wilkes-Barre. Many people are surprised to learn that these free bicycles are part of the Wilkes-Barre Bike Share - a program to encourage cycling in and near downtown! With assistance from a SGP Mini-Grant the Luzerne County Bikes and Walks organization has developed a brochure to encourage the public to make use of this fun, healthy, and free outdoor activity. For the brochure and more info, [visit our website.](#)

Photo by Mark James

June is River Month!

Every June River Month is celebrated across the country as folks get together to appreciate these amazing ecosystems. Our Susquehanna River provides opportunities for recreation, wildlife viewing, quiet contemplation, and even artistic inspiration! It provides fresh water to over 6 million people and over 50% of the fresh water that sustains the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. How will you enjoy show your appreciation for the Susquehanna River this month? Here are some ideas:



interactive [Greenway Map](#) or learn more with printed maps available for each [water trail section.](#)

Water Trails - Explore the river through our system of public river access areas. Whether you want to float, fish, or just get your toes wet, these public access areas are your key to connecting with the River. Explore these public areas with our

If you are interested in helping with a local Greenway project, or would like to assist us with an event, photography, office work, etc. visit our website and [click on volunteer](#).



www.ExplorePATrails.org.

Land Trails - There are many great trails and overlooks along the banks of the Susquehanna: The Williamsport Timber Trail and Riverwalk, the Towanda River Trail (pictured here), the Capitol Area Greenbelt, even the Appalachian Trail in Duncannon! Learn more about trails along the River at DCNR's website,

Upcoming Events

To see more events, or to have an event listed, please visit our [Calendar of Events](#).

[City Beautiful Panel](#)

Harrisburg
June 20

[Wyoming Valley Riverfest](#)

Wilkes-Barre
June 21 - 23

[Great Island Triathlon](#)

Lock Haven
June 22

[Backyard Workshop](#)

State College
June 22

[River Cleanup](#)

Lower Susq.
June 22

[Family Fun Fest](#)

Berwick
June 22 - 23

[Kayak Trip](#)

Montgomery
June 22

[Woolman Walk](#)

Various locations

[Creek Cleanup](#)

Cumberland County
June 23

[Paddle Race](#)

Sunbury
June 23



River Cleanup Events: Help improve water quality, habitat, and natural beauty by volunteering at a cleanup event in your area! Join in a [Susquehanna River Cleanup](#) on June 22nd, or help to keep a special tributary, [Yellow Breeches Creek](#), clean on June 23rd in Cumberland County.

Be sure to check out our online [Calendar of Events](#) for other paddle trips, clean-up events, races, family fishing days and more! You can even post your events using the [online form](#).

What's Up, SUP?

Family Attempts Paddling Record



What was your childhood dream? For the Marks Family of Bloomsburg, their 16 year-old son thought of something pretty unique - to be the first to paddle the entire length of the Susquehanna River on a stand up paddleboard (SUP)! By completing the 444 mile journey from Cooperstown, NY to Havre de Grace, MD, "The idea evolved into a fundraiser for organizations whose mission is to aid in raising healthy children," explains dad, Steve Marks. The two main causes that the Marks are concerned with are rebuilding Kidsburg playground and raising funds for the Danville Community Center. Join the cause and [learn more](#). Good luck Marks Family and SUP-on!

The Marks Family and their paddleboards on a rainy day near Athens, PA

[Cemetery Walking Tour](#)

Tunkhannock
June 23

[Ash Borer Workshop](#)

Dauphin
June 24 - 25

[Pest Walkabout](#)

Wilkes-Barre
June 25

[Eagles Workshop](#)

Danville
June 27

[Paddling Clinic](#)

Montoursville
June 27

[Lower River History](#)

Holtwood
June 27

[Biodiversity Workshop](#)

Danville
June 28

[Kayak Trip](#)

Port Trevorton
June 29

[Leave No Trace](#)

Drums
June 30

To see more events, or to have an event listed, please visit our [Calendar of Events](#).

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors



Woolman Walk

Many people are aware of the tumultuous relations that often existed between early colonial settlers and Native Americans in Pennsylvania, but few have heard of the efforts of an early Quaker minister from New Jersey. Concerned about the treatment of Native Americans and to help promote peace, in 1763 John Woolman walked over 200 miles from New Jersey to the wilderness of Wyalusing along the Susquehanna River. Today you can celebrate Woolman's efforts by retracing his steps. Covering approximately 220 miles in 15 days, the [Woolman Walk](#) will take place from June 8th - 22nd. Join the walk at any time for any distance.

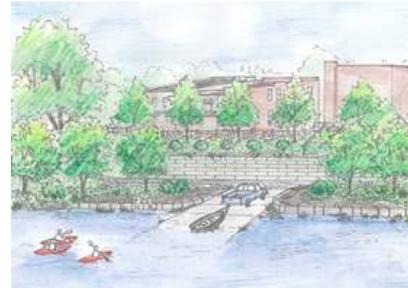


Photo of John Woolman courtesy of Towanda Friends Meeting

Almost There! - Jersey Shore River Access

The historic town of Jersey Shore is

located along the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. The town's location and identity are entwined in its river heritage, yet there is no public access to connect with the rich resources of the river. We are working with the Borough of Jersey Shore, the PA DCNR, and community leaders to develop a safe, public, river access that offers opportunities for boating, fishing, swimming and sightseeing!



Thank you to the latest sponsor of the Jersey Shore Public River Access project. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation joins other small and large businesses, state agencies, foundations, civic groups and citizens of Jersey Shore in support of this project.

Thanks to all our donors, we have almost reached our fundraising goal of \$50,000 for the project. We are just \$4,000 away from starting the project! To learn more about the project, see our [Project Profile](#). To get your business involved, contact [Bridget Kane](#).

Individuals looking to make a tax-deductible donation to the Public Access Project can donate online - [Donate Now!](#) Please include "Jersey Shore Public Access" in the comment section. Thank you!



Photo from l-r: Mayor W. Dennis Buttorff of Jersey Shore Borough; Mary Wolf, Government Relations Advisor, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation; Jerry S. Walls, FAICP, Chairman, Board of Directors SGP



Berwick Riverfest - Say Hello!



Catch the SGP information booth and volunteers at the [Berwick Family Fun Festival June 22 - 23](#) at the lovely, tree-lined, riverside Test Track Park! Pick up a greenway sticker for your car/boat and a special greenway coloring book for the kids! Enter for a chance to win a paddle trip donated by [Canoe Susquehanna](#). After you enjoy a scenic train ride, food vendors, and other fun activities, be sure to stop by and say hello!



Paddle the Pack

Friends of the Shickellamy State Park are proud to announce their 1st Annual "Paddle the Pack" fundraiser and paddling contest around Packer Island, home to Shickellamy State Park Marina, Sunbury. The course around Packer Island is 4.02 miles from start to finish. Registration fees are \$25 per person and include t-shirt and bottle of water. You provide your boat and launch permit. Free youth kayak races courtesy of Stone

Barn Kayak & These Guys Kayak Companies. For information, [click here](#).

Rainbow over the North Branch Susq. River and Packer Island, Robert Haefner.

PPL Supports Greenway

PPL Corporation continues to show its commitment to building a connected Susquehanna corridor of revitalized towns, trails, and parks by renewing their sponsorship of the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership. Teri MacBride, PPL's Regional Affairs Director and SGP Board Member presented a check for \$8,000 to SGP's Board of Directors Chairman, Jerry Walls, and Executive Director, Trish





Carothers. Thank you PPL for helping us to encourage healthy, sustainable communities that embrace the river as a place to live, work and play! To find out how your business can help to build the Susquehanna Greenway through sponsorship, contact [Bridget Kane](#), Membership & Volunteer Coordinator.



Dragons on the Susquehanna



Dragons are coming to the Susquehanna. Yes, you read that right. The annual dragon boat races that are part of Wyoming Valley Riverfest will soon be unleashed on the river at Wilkes-Barre. Riverfest will take place **June 21 - 23**, with dragon boat activities featured on Saturday and Sunday. Family activities, nature hikes, and kayaking demos are just some of the activities to enjoy. Learn more

[here.](#)



Wear Your Greenway Pride



The O'Shea Family, the folks behind the Country Ski & Sports Stores, are passionate about the outdoors and improving the local experience for visitors and residents alike. To kick-off their new custom screenprinting business, they'll be producing a series of t-shirts that celebrate local paddling, biking, and more! **Country Ski & Sports will donate \$2 from every shirt sold to benefit Susquehanna Greenway!** Thank you CSS for supporting our park, trail, conservation, and rivertown efforts! Additionally, don't miss their afternoon paddling clinics - free for boaters with their own equipment. For information see our [Calendar of Events](#) or the [CSS website](#).



Bike-themed CSS t-shirt with Susquehanna Greenway sleeve logo!



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER VALLEY
every turn a treasure®

[Bitting Recreation, Inc.](#)

[CNB Bank](#)

Sojourns Connect People To River

The Susquehanna played host to two unique Sojourns this year! Susquehanna River Sojourns are educational, multi-day paddling journeys. During the day canoeists and kayakers paddle downriver. At night they camp along the shore and interact with local river towns and communities. History, natural resources, and stewardship are

[Geokinetics](#)

[Jersey Shore Area
Lioness Club](#)

Jersey Shore Moose
Lodge #214

[Norcen Industries, Inc.](#)

[Santino's Italian Cuisine](#)

South Avis Realty

[Susquehanna Trailways](#)

[Wegmans](#)

[Weis Markets](#)

[Woodlands Bank](#)

some of the themes explored on the sojourns! See the sojourn highlights below:

[West Branch Susquehanna Sojourn](#)
McGees Mills, PA to Keating, PA
99 river miles May 14-19, 2013



- 92 participants and volunteers
- 6 states represented!
- Paddled under the *only* covered bridge across the River
- Collected over 40 bags of garbage, a microwave, tires, and a bicycle during stewardship cleanup with NRG Energy, Inc.
- Injected \$13,000 into local economy from sojourn goods and services!



[Susquehanna Sojourn](#)
Great Bend, PA to Sugar Run, PA
97 river miles June 8-15, 2013

With a theme of "Paddling Through Time" sojourners paddled across state borders multiple times and learned local geography, war history, biology, and even about prehistoric megafauna that used to roam the area! Experiencing the hospitality of many different river towns, sojourners made unique connections to the river as they paddled through time!

Photos by Kristen Hand (top) and Chuck Haupt (bottom)

Donate For River Month!



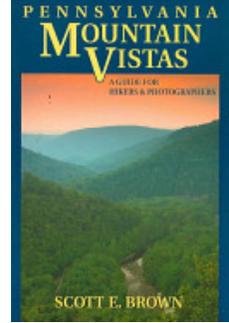
Creating over 500 miles of connected parks, trails, conserved areas, and revitalized river towns is no small task and we cannot do it without local partners and contributions from people like you who care about the future of the Susquehanna Greenway!

We hope you will consider [making a tax-deductible donation](#) to show your appreciation for PA's most important natural asset. Your contributions help us to be a stronger champion for the River, create an environment that is attractive to business, advocate for protection of our water, farmlands, and forests. [Click here](#) to become a member of the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership. Thank you!

River Reads

Pennsylvania Mountain Vistas by Scott E. Brown

Looking for Susquehanna River vistas to share with a friend, family, favorite four-legged hiking pal, or just for a solitary hike? You'll want to get your hands on this book which provides details on 78 PA vistas, including some with Susquehanna River views. Distance, difficulty, elevation change, and even lighting details are included for the photographically inclined. This is a great book to have on hand this time of year! Learn more [here](#).



Meet Our Intern: Benjamin Massoud



We are pleased to welcome Ben, an upcoming senior at Elon University, North Carolina, to SGP for the summer! Ben is majoring in strategic communications with a minor in sociology and will be helping us develop our website content and other communications initiatives. "Having been born and raised in Lewisburg, I have had the opportunity to enjoy all that the Susquehanna Greenway has to offer. I look forward to using the communications skills and knowledge that I have developed to aid the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership."

Meet Our Volunteer: Rachel Mack

Rachel tirelessly volunteered her time

this past spring to improve our online [Calendar of Events](#) and outreach initiatives! Thanks to her great work, we were able to publicize wonderful events happening all along the Susquehanna Greenway in PA! Rachel is an avid hiker and runner and was a true asset to promoting outdoor activities and workshops in river towns. She recently graduated from Susquehanna University in Mass Communications and Sociology. Congrats and thank you Rachel!



Banner photos (L to R): Chuck Haupt, Bre Reynolds, Dave Spier, and Mary Bove

Visit us at www.susquehannagreenway.org