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The SEDA-COG Report

News from the Counties and Communities of Central Pennsylvania
December 2014

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SEDA-COG is a publicly funded development organization based in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania and serving an 11-county region. We help the counties – and the communities and citizens within them – address challenges related to their economies and infrastructure, and we assist them in responding to new opportunities in such areas as energy, technology, market development, transportation, and locally-based resources.

New Signs will Help You Find Your Way Around the Susquehanna Greenway

River-related, recreation, and historical resources abound within the 22 counties of the Susquehanna Greenway and, as the result of a \$50,000 mini-grant program, those resources will be easier than ever to locate and identify. The program was carried out by the [Susquehanna Greenway Partnership \(SGP\)](#) and resulted in grants ranging from \$1,200 to \$10,000 distributed to 10 communities and recreation organizations. The mini-grants leveraged an additional \$71,000 in cash and in-kind contributions.

[Click here for a full list of the grant recipients and their projects.](#)



The *Susquehanna One of the Greenway's interpretive Greenway Signage signs, in front of the Rupert Covered and Interpretation Bridge in Columbia County.*

program focused on interpretive planning and signage projects to improve the experience of people as they enjoy the walking,

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SEDA-COG primarily serves the 11 Central Pennsylvania counties of Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Juniata, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, and Union.

biking, and water trails; community parks; and river towns within the Susquehanna Greenway. Grants were awarded to 1) develop plans to interpret and promote community resources and 2) produce signs based on [Susquehanna Greenway Sign Design Guidelines](#). Funds for the program originated with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is pleased to partner with the DCNR to award \$50,000 in mini-grants to community partners along the Susquehanna," said Trish Carothers, Executive Director, SGP, "We have a vision for the Susquehanna Greenway with over 500 miles of connected trails, towns, and conserved land."

The Greenway helps to protect water quality, encourages healthy lifestyles, and inspires stewardship and civic pride in places where people love to live, work, play, and visit. Additional information on the mini-grant program is available from [Zach Pyle](#), Greenway River Towns Coordinator, tel. 570-522-7339.

Millheim Pursues Energy Independence

With music, balloons, refreshments and energy experts, the rural Centre County community of Millheim kicked off its community-wide energy conservation project earlier this fall. A crowd of about 50 filled the local fire hall where they learned about the project – *Renewing Millheim's Energy Independence* – and heard from Borough officials and individuals who have been involved with similar efforts.

Millheim's project is based on the [New Berlin Energy Independence Project](#) in Union County that resulted in many residents and organizations reporting annual energy use reductions of 30% to 70%. Susan Chlebowski, who served on the New Berlin project's advisory committee, urged the Millheim crowd to "...soar using New Berlin's experience and SEDA-COG's assistance."



The kick-off event was an opportunity to interact and learn about the project.

"Households in Millheim will realize energy and cost savings and distinguish our town as a model community for other projects within the state and beyond," Millheim Borough Council President Al Ilgen told the gathering.