Susquehanna Greenway Driving Tour

Welcome to the Susquehanna Greenway, a corridor of parks, trails, and river communities stretching over 500 miles along the Susquehanna River. It is Pennsylvania’s longest greenway!

The Susquehanna River has been a corridor of commerce to the Chesapeake Bay from the time that Native Americans first inhabited its shores, through the canal and industrial periods, and remains so today. The Susquehanna River Watershed provides half of the fresh water entering the Bay and drinking water to over six million people. This tour will reveal some of the historic, economic, and geographic connections between the Susquehanna River corridor and the Chesapeake Bay for many of the communities we visit.

Along the way, we hope you will sense the pride river communities have with their connection to this critical resource. The cultural and natural history of the Susquehanna River is centuries long and the impact of the river is longer still when you consider geological time. This tour will guide you through both and suggest you linger when you want to explore more at selected stops, viewpoints, and historic river towns.

Tour Statistics

- 95 miles
- 2.5 hours total driving time
- 22 tour stops, each with a narrative audio track

Get Started

- Print this tour booklet
- Download the audio tracks to your MP3 player or burn them to a CD to play your car
- Smartphone users with a QR code app can listen to tracks by scanning the code at each stop
- At Stop #1, play Track #1, etc.
- Bring a state road atlas and/or a GPS unit to navigate to each stop
- Don’t forget to bring your friends, snacks, and a camera!

Safety

- Obey speed limits and traffic laws
- Wear your seatbelt and use directional signals
- Use caution when pulling into or out of stop locations and be courteous to other drivers
Stop 1: Packwood House Museum

![Photo by Tiffani Scott](image1)

15 North Water Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837
Latitude/Longitude: 40.966437/ -76.881562
570-524-0323 (Call for hours of operation)
www.packwoodhousemuseum.com

This historic museum shares the stories of the Fetherston family, the history and architecture of their home, and changing regional exhibits. Tour the museum to explore the family’s vast collection of glass, ceramics, paintings, and Pennsylvania German decorative arts. Visit the gift shop, or step into the woodland garden to see the area’s only collection of century-old Japanese cedars.

Stop 2: Shikellamy State Park Overlook

![Photo by Tiffani Scott](image2)

From Lewisburg, follow Route 15 South for about 6 miles, follow brown State Park signs
Latitude/Longitude: 40.881269/ -76.80205
The state park road to the overlook is closed late October - May
www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/shikellamy/index.htm
www.friendsofshikellamystatepark.org

Enjoy this soaring view from 360 feet above the confluence of the West Branch Susquehanna River and North Branch Susquehanna River. From here you’ll learn about Shamokin, the important Native American settlement.

Stop 3: The Joseph Priestley House Museum

![Photo by Tiffani Scott](image3)

472 Priestley Avenue, Northumberland, PA 17857
Latitude/Longitude: 40.890462/ -76.790084
570-473-9474 (Call for hours of operation and admission rates)
www.josephpriestleyhouse.org

Learn about the many interesting contributions Joseph Priestley made to American history as a theologian, educator, natural philosopher and political theorist.
Stop 4: Northumberland Historic District

Parking anywhere near:
King Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Latitude/Longitude: 40.889986/ -76.794801

If you have time, enjoy a walk along the King Street Park and take in the architecture of the homes and structures included in the Northumberland Historic District.

Scan code for audio track!

Stop 5: Shikellamy State Park Marina

Bridge Avenue, Sunbury, PA 17801
Latitude/Longitude: 40.879735/ -76.792173

At this island park you can stand at the point of confluence where the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna River join to form the Main Stem. See the long flood wall across the North Branch in Sunbury? We’ll learn more about it at Stop #7. This park offers numerous paved trails, picnic tables, and shaded benches.

Scan code for audio track!

Stop 6: Hunter House Museum and Fort Augusta

1150 North Front Street, Sunbury, PA 17801
Latitude/Longitude: 40.875838/ -76.791800

570-286-4083 (Call for hours of operation and admission rates)
www.northumberlandcountyhistoricalsociety.org

Visit the site where Fort Augusta stood from the French and Indian War to the close of the American Revolution. The museum’s permanent exhibits include artifacts from Fort Augusta, the French and Indian War, The American Revolution, and Northumberland County.

Scan code for audio track!
**Drive-By-Stop 7: Sunbury Floodwall**

As you can see from this photo taken after the September 2011 flood, the floodwalls play a major role in the lives of Sunbury residents. Learn about this impressive US Army Corps of Engineers project during this drive-by interpretation.

Photo by Flickr User USACEpublicaffairs

**Stop 8: Sunbury**

Sunbury became internationally famous when in 1883 Thomas Edison demonstrated his electric light by wiring the city hotel. Stop in the hotel lobby, grab a bite to eat, enjoy Cameron Park on Market Street, or enjoy a walking tour of the Sunbury Historic District available at the link above.

Photo by Steve Pensyl

**Stop 9: Adam T. Bower Memorial Dam**

This dam holds the world record for being the largest of its kind. Over 2,000 feet long, the dam consists of seven rubber bags. Six bags are 300 feet in length, and one is 175 feet in length. When the bags are inflated they stand eight feet in height and create the seasonal Lake Augusta. The dam and lake are part of the Shikellamy State Park.

Photo by Flickr User USACEpublicaffairs

Scan code for audio track!
Stop 10: Keithan’s Bluebird Gardens

Accessible from Route 147 South, Sunbury, PA 17801
Latitude/Longitude: 40.847878/ -76.802766
www.cityofsunbury.com/Pages/Community/ParksandRecreation.aspx

In the 1920s, Sunbury resident Charles Keithan started a hobby garden that grew, unexpectedly, into a beloved part of the community landscape. Enjoy this now public oasis of exotic trees, azaleas, rhododendron, and various flowers throughout the year.

Drive-By-Stop 11: Susquehanna Landscape

Continue South on Route 147

As you take in the rolling hills and quaint views from Route 147, you'll learn why the landscape looks this way and just how variable the Susquehanna River has been during its ancient lifetime.

Stop 12: Penn’s Tavern

5 miles South of Sunbury
113 River Road, Fishers Ferry, Sunbury, PA 17801
Latitude/Longitude: 40.767713/ -76.843568
570-286-2007 (Call for hours of operation)

Since early colonial times, the old stone tavern has stood overlooking the eastern bank of the Susquehanna River. Over the years, the stone building has served the community as a hotel, ferry house, post office (1854), railroad station (1857) and today, as Penn’s Tavern, a fine dining establishment it continues to be a favorite stopping place for the refreshment of weary travelers.
**Drive-By-Stop 13: Native American History**

First marker is about 3 miles south of Penn’s Tavern
Latitude/Longitude: 40.737851/ -76.839605

Along this stretch of the trip you’ll pass a number of historic markers that detail Native American nations and their placenames, early treaties with the British, and expeditions of the little known PA Alpine Club that took place in this area of the river valley. Use caution if you pull over to investigate these road markers.

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**Drive-By-Stop 14: River Towns and Water Gaps**

Continue along Route 147 South for 10 miles
Pass through the towns of Herndon and Dalmatia

Enjoy various river views as you travel through the river towns of Herndon and Dalmatia. Learn about the changing role that the river has played for these and other river towns. You’ll also hear about the famous water gaps along this stretch, where the river flows through five folded mountain ridges.

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**Stop 15: Mail Pouch Barns**

8.5 miles south of Dalmatia, on left
Park on right near two railroad cars
Latitude/Longitude: 40.554469/ -76.966213

Throughout the drive, you might have seen a number of barns with Mail Pouch Tobacco advertisements. Stop and explore one of these barns at this stop and learn about the history of this advertising program.

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**Stop 16: Millersburg Ferry**

Near the corner of North and River streets, Millersburg
Latitude/Longitude: 40.540662/ -76.964726
Open seasonally May – October, street parking available 717- 692-2442 (Call for schedule and rates)

A round trip ride on the Millersburg Ferry takes about an hour or less and is sure to be a memorable occasion with beautiful views. The Millersburg Ferry Boat Association owns and operates these boats that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
**Stop 17: Fort Halifax**

Five miles South of Millersburg, look for sign on right
Drive down the farm lane and park near barn
Latitude/Longitude: 40.477301/ -76.934029
www.forthalifaxpark.org

Built in 1756 and dismantled around 1763, this fort was a sub-post of Fort Augusta at Sunbury. A stone monument marking the site of this colonial fort along PA Route 147 just north of Halifax was erected in 1926. The area of the former fort is now part of the Halifax Township Park and Conservation area which consists of 174 acres that is to be developed into a historical park for visitor enjoyment. An excellent video history is available at the website listed above.

**Drive-By-Stop 18: Memorial Sycamore Trees**

Along Route 147

Have you noticed the beautiful trees lining Route 147? These are sycamore trees and you’ll learn about why they stand along the road during this drive-by portion of the tour. The trees are easy to identify by their bark, which flakes off in irregular patches and leaves the tree surface mottled with green, white, gray, and brown colors.

**Stop 19: Duncannon**

Duncannon, PA 17020
Latitude/Longitude: 40.391043/ -77.029812
Old Sled Works: 717-834-9333 (Call for hours of operation)

In Duncannon you can explore the retro penny arcade, soda fountain, fire tower, and antiques of Old Sled Works, look for Appalachian Trail hikers at the Doyle Hotel, or dip your toes in the river beneath the many railroad arch accesses.
Drive-By-Stop 20: Pennsylvania Canal at Liverpool

Liverpool, PA 17045
Latitude/Longitude: 40.57396/ -76.989074

As you drive along Route 11/15 North you are following portions of the old Pennsylvania Canal system. The towpath and parts of the canal were graded and filled for the highway in the 1950s. Enjoy the river views!

Stop 21: McKees Half Falls

About 7 miles north of Liverpool, on right
Latitude/Longitude: 40.659162/ -76.918652

Follow the signs for this rest area north of Liverpool. This is the perfect place for a picnic or a photo. The long, rocky falls make it apparent why the Susquehanna River is unsuitable for shipping traffic and remains the longest unnavigable river in the United States!

Stop 22: Selinsgrove

Selinsgrove, PA 17870
Latitude/Longitude: 40.799334/ -76.861967

Shops and restaurants along Market Street provide a feast both for the eye and the palette that can be explored and enjoyed with leisure. Stroll among the Georgian style buildings of Susquehanna University campus, or explore the Isle of Que, a quaint residential neighborhood with stunning views of the river.
Want to know more?

Thank you for exploring this part of the Susquehanna Greenway. We hope you had a fun, memorable, and relaxing day and are taking home some good memories. We would love to hear about your Greenway experience. Email your comments and photos to info@susquehannagreenway.org

To learn more about the variety of recreational and educational opportunities found along the Susquehanna Greenway, to get involved, or to become a volunteer visit our website www.susquehannagreenway.org

Scan code to visit us on the web!