

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Susquehanna River at Tioga Point near Athens and Sayre, PA. Photo by Eva Wade.

Athens and Sayre Designated Susquehanna Greenway River Towns

Over the past few months, the communities of Athens and Sayre have worked with the [Susquehanna Greenway Partnership](#) (SGP) to be designated as Susquehanna Greenway River Towns. The communities earned the title by completing an application and agreeing to advance projects that will connect people to the river and connect the valley to the larger Susquehanna Greenway system.

The River Town designation effort is led by Futurescapes, a non-profit organization, that was created after severe flooding devastated the Athens and Sayre region in 2011. The group coordinates the region's long-term recovery process which was spearheaded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. As part of this recovery process, Futurescapes actively looks to plan and implement projects that improve the quality of life for Athens and Sayre area residents and businesses. The River Town designation effort is also supported by the Endless Mountains Heritage Region.

On **Friday, October 31, 2014**, the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership will officially name Athens and Sayre as Susquehanna Greenway River Towns during the annual Sayre Redskins versus Athens Wildcat football matchup. The designation will happen shortly before kick-off at 7:00p.m. A short ceremony will include representatives from Futurescapes including Linda Politi and Tom Thornton; as well as Athens Borough Mayor George Whyte and Sayre Borough Mayor Denny Thomas.

"Susquehanna Greenway River Towns are not stand-alone communities, they are part of the Susquehanna Greenway - a connected landscape of parks, walking and biking trails, river access areas, working farms and conserved land stretching over 500 miles along the Susquehanna River," says Trish Carothers, SGP's Executive Director. "The Greenway helps to protect our water quality, encourages healthy lifestyles, and inspires stewardship and civic pride in places where people live, work, play and visit."

Any further questions can be directed to Zach Pyle, SGP River Towns Program Coordinator, at 570-522-7339 or zpyle@susquehannagreenway.org.

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