

# Chesapeake Bay Program

## Chesapeake Bay News

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### Watershed Wednesday: Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (Lewisburg, Pa.)

Imagine a stretch of water that runs from dense forests to rolling farmland, a riverside town with a rich agricultural and industrial past or a park that was once home to a working mill, but now provides paddlers and picnickers with an outdoor space to relax.

These are just some of the natural, cultural and recreational resources located along the Susquehanna River. The full list is vast, but one Pennsylvania partnership is working to tie them together.



*Image courtesy Susquehanna Greenway Partnership/Flickr*

A leading champion of one of the largest rivers in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the **Susquehanna Greenway Partnership** works with individuals, governments and nonprofit organizations to improve water quality in the Susquehanna while revitalizing the economies of riverside towns.

Curbing environmental problems while curing local economies seems like an ambitious goal, but the partnership has built its forward-thinking work on the solid foundation of local history.



*Image courtesy Susquehanna Greenway Partnership/Flickr*

In hopes of connecting the Susquehanna with the people on its shores, the partnership has established a **River Towns program** that provides assistance to communities that want to revitalize and celebrate their river connection. The program ensures that small towns along the Susquehanna retain their sense of community and convenience, which can attract both residents and visitors alike. Walkable neighborhoods and nearby natural areas keep towns connected to the Susquehanna and engaged with each other.

The partnership has also worked to boost the public's investment in the Susquehanna, increasing public access points, installing informative signs and linking parks, businesses and residential areas with wildlife habitat corridors.

#### **More from the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership:**

- Explore the natural and cultural history of the Susquehanna River with this **collection of photos** from the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership.
- Watch this **video** of a mid-river paddle to learn just what draws boaters to the Susquehanna each summer. Then find a bike path, paddle trail or hunting area near you with the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership's **interactive map**.
- From "adopting" a section of the Susquehanna to collecting images of the towns and trails along the Greenway, **volunteer opportunities** abound!



*About Caitlin Finnerty - Caitlin Finnerty is the Communications Staffer at the Chesapeake Research Consortium and Chesapeake Bay Program. Caitlin grew up digging for dinosaur bones and making mud pies in Harrisburg, Pa. Her fine arts degree landed her environmental field work jobs everywhere from Oregon to Maryland. Now settled in Baltimore, she is eagerly expecting her first child while creating an urban garden oasis on her cement patio.*

## **Comments:**

**Trish Carothers** says:

November 21, 2012

Caitlin, thanks for spreading the word about the Susquehanna Greenway. To quote Charles Little, a pioneer in greenways, "To build a greenway is to build a community."

We always welcome anyone interested to the community!

Trish Carothers

Executive Director, Susquehanna Greenway Partnership

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