



# Annual Report

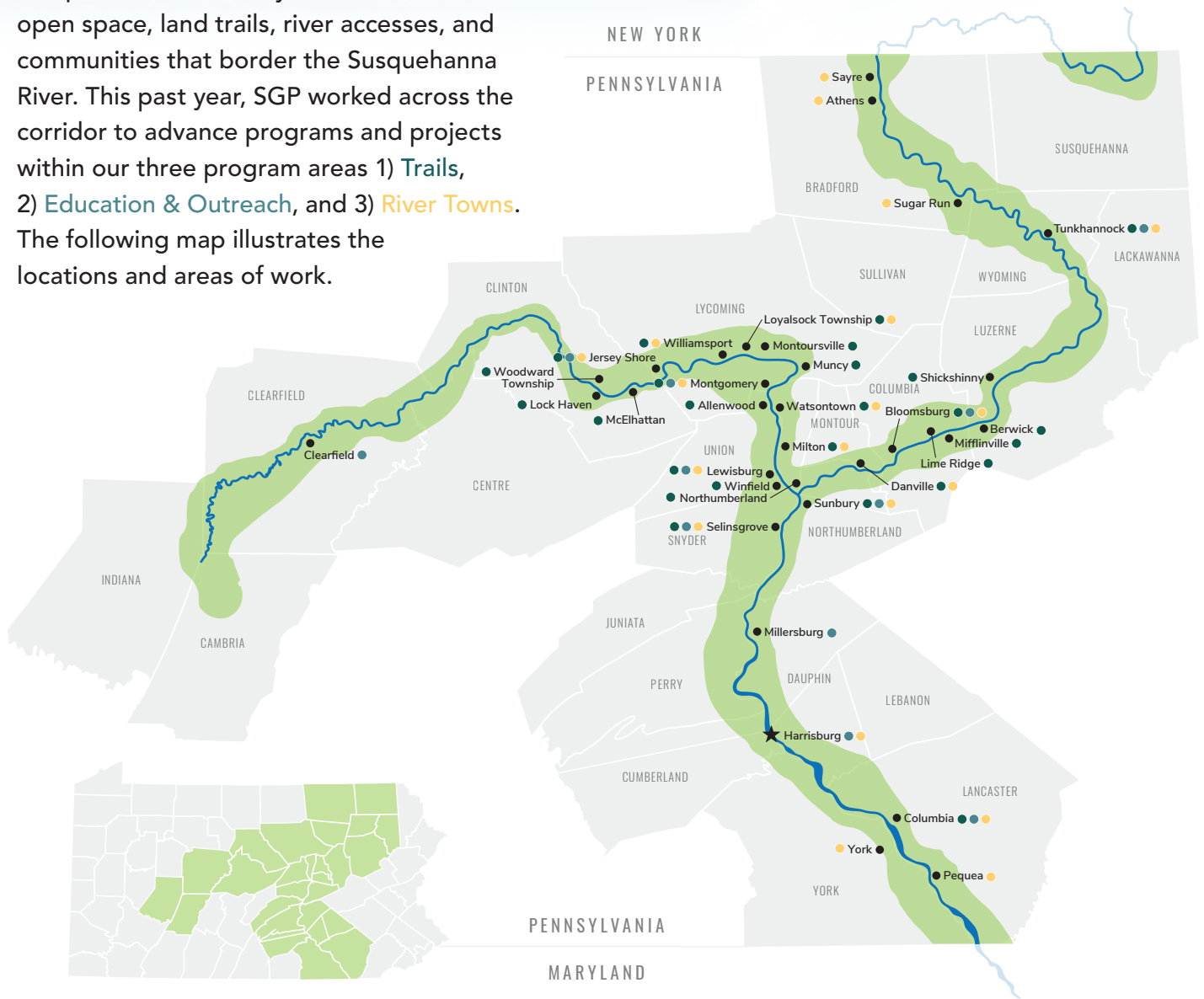
2023

Chickies Rock Overlook  
Lancaster County

# Greenway

## Map & Program Areas

Stretching over 500 miles in length, the Susquehanna Greenway is a corridor of open space, land trails, river accesses, and communities that border the Susquehanna River. This past year, SGP worked across the corridor to advance programs and projects within our three program areas 1) **Trails**, 2) **Education & Outreach**, and 3) **River Towns**. The following map illustrates the locations and areas of work.



### ● Trails

Assisted communities and partners to envision, build, and sustain land and water trails.

### ● Education & Outreach

Provided programming and outreach to promote and increase the use of the Susquehanna Greenway.

### ● River Towns

Worked with communities to develop strategies that increase their connections to the River and each other.

### ■ The Susquehanna Greenway

A network of connected land and water trails, parks, and towns that border the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania.



Greetings from the Greenway!

2023 marked the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership’s 17th year. Although the year itself was highlighted with many changes—new staff and skill sets joining the SGP Team, tenured staff and Board members stepping away to tackle

new opportunities, and a transition in leadership with a new Executive Director—the evolution of the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership remains ingrained in growing the greenway network, creating connections, and protecting and promoting the Susquehanna River.

True to our name, 2023 was another year of fantastic work with Partnerships.

Through collaborative efforts with the Heritage Regions, Water Trail Managers, Riverkeepers, Visitors Bureaus, government entities, and other nonprofits, the Susquehanna Greenway continues to grow, addressing identified needs, implementing projects, and hosting events to promote and improve the Greenway network.

The most notable partnerships were centered around the ‘River of the Year’ designation for the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. There were many organizations responsible for making this designation by popular vote a reality. Thanks to this collaboration, the summer season was packed full of events on and along all 181 miles of the North Branch, showcasing its beauty and

avenue for outdoor opportunities. What a well-deserved honor for the North Branch of the Susquehanna River!

The Susquehanna Greenway website also completed its first full year as a rebranded and relaunched one stop shop for outdoor recreational planning along the Greenway. New resources continue to be launched to provide the best planning tools for enjoying outdoor recreation on the Susquehanna Greenway.

The advancement of the Susquehanna Greenway cannot be done without you. As 2024 brings new opportunities and renewed energy, the SGP team is embracing new passions, new skills, and new knowledge to reinvigorate programming and projects.

It is wonderful to see the partnerships, projects, events, and resources continue to grow and thrive. As SGP is asked for more, we continue to provide. Please continue to join us on the Susquehanna Sojourn series, Outdoor Expo, Paddlers Toolkits, tabling events, presentations, and Pop-Up Paddles. We love seeing old friends as well as making new ones!

From all of us at the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, we wanted to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your support, generosity, and encouragement in 2023 and look forward to continued collaboration in 2024.

See you on the Greenway!

Leslie Warriner, SGP Executive Director



# Trails

SGP's Trails Program helps communities and partners envision, plan, and sustain trails within the Susquehanna Greenway. Our work begins at the local and regional level, making steps towards our ultimate vision to create a connected 500-mile system of parks, land trails, boat launches, and preserved open spaces that connects people to the Susquehanna River and to each other.

*Shikellamy State Park  
Photo by Rita Scholl*



Marie Antoinette Overlook  
Photo by David Walsh



# The Susquehanna River North Branch: 2023 River of the Year

As the water trail managers for the Susquehanna River North Branch, the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) and Endless Mountains Heritage Region (EMHR), co-nominated the North Branch for 2023 River of the Year—and we won!

Administered by the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR), this very special designation is awarded by a public vote. After a waterway is chosen for the annual honor, the nominating entities implement a year-round slate of activities and events to celebrate the river, including a paddling trip, or sojourn. A \$10,000 leadership grant is also awarded from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to help fund 'River of the Year' activities.

Flowing from the New York state line to Sunbury near Shikellamy State Park at the confluence with the Susquehanna River West Branch, the Susquehanna River North Branch meanders through eight Pennsylvania counties, including Susquehanna, Bradford, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, and Northumberland. As a water trail, it is widely used by paddlers, anglers, recreational boaters, and wildlife enthusiasts.

A total of 11,438 votes were cast, with Susquehanna River North Branch receiving 4,098; the Perkiomen Creek 3,110; Conestoga River 2,490; and Schuylkill River 1,740.

With the winning votes and funding secured, SGP and EMHR had a fantastic lineup of events and programs to celebrate the North Branch as the '2023 River of the Year.'

Early in the season, in May 2023, SGP partnered with Pennsylvania Master Naturalist to host a **Paddler's Toolkit Workshop** along the North Branch in Tunkhannock. This unique program introduced 15 participants to the basics of paddling and local ecology in the morning, with an afternoon paddle on the river. The group launched from Vosburg Neck State Park, which was newly designated in 2022.

In June, SGP hosted the **Susquehanna Greenway Outdoor Expo** where the North Branch meets the West Branch at Shikellamy State Park Marina. This single-day event convened outdoor industry experts to offer a full schedule of activities, presentations, storytelling, food, music, and more. The event attracted 50+ exhibitors and 1,700+ locals and area visitors.



EMHR then kicked off their **25th anniversary and 'River of the Year' Sojourn**, guiding 50 paddlers along 119 miles from Sayre to Shickshinny during a fun-filled weeklong program on the North Branch the first week of June. EMHR also offered a **Youth Heritage Sojourn** in June, a **Summer Heritage Benefit Paddle** for the Wyoming County Historical Society in July, and a **Fall Heritage Benefit Paddle** for the Bradford County Parks System in October.

SGP additionally hosted a **Lower North Branch 'River of the Year' Sojourn** in August 2023, guiding 100 participants along a 10-mile route from Berwick to Bloomsburg. During lunch, guests were treated to a live birds of prey program led by Miller's Wildlife and Conservation Specialists, showing off some of the amazing species that can be seen along the river.

It was a season to remember, and SGP and EMHR could not be more grateful to the community of Susquehanna River enthusiasts who made this big win possible for the North Branch!



## West Branch Paddle Club Welcomes New Members



In 2023, SGP was excited to report 12 active members of the West Branch Paddle Club (WBPC) program. The West Branch Paddle Club (WBPC) is an exclusive program that celebrates the Susquehanna River Water Trail – West Branch and the recreational paddlers who explore it. The program splits the 228-mile water trail into four unique segments based on mileage & available boat launches. To learn more about the WBPC, visit [susquehannagreenway.org/wbpc](https://susquehannagreenway.org/wbpc).



Photo by Darren Brown

## SGP Meets with Water Trail Stakeholders

Collaboration is key to maintaining user safety and experience on the Susquehanna River Water Trail. With this in mind, SGP convened our network of partners and stakeholders of the West Branch and Lower North Branch to provide a platform for sharing project updates, regional needs, and upcoming events along the water trail. At the 2023 Spring and Fall meetings, common themes included the need for a sign or symbol to mark private land, campsites, or launches as open to the public for camping or stopping for through paddlers of the 444 or the West Branch paddles clubs, and the status of municipal owned launches along both branches that need improvements or repairs. The group discussed some positive examples of well-maintained municipally owned accesses to showcase as models.



## SGP Convenes Water Trail Managers

Because it is so large, the Susquehanna River Water Trail is divided into four manageable branches or sections based on river characteristics and major landmarks—the West Branch, North Branch, Middle Section, and Lower Section. Each of these sections is managed by a leading entity, and SGP serves as the convener of all four. As such, SGP led the managers through a wayfinding and branding project in 2023 that seeks to help bring the four branches underneath one cohesive suite of logos and branding. This step marks Phase I of a larger effort to inventory the river for needed signage, and eventually implement that signage to help recreators better navigate the resource. SGP also began conversations with New York and Maryland to discuss cohesive signage across state lines.

## Susquehanna Pop-Up Paddle

On October 7, 2023, SGP held a Fall Pop-Up Paddle on the Susquehanna River’s West Branch. This half-day excursion guided paddlers along a looped route starting and ending in Linden, PA. Though the day started out cloudy and raining, those who braved the weather were rewarded with a gorgeous afternoon! Participants also got to see up-close remnants of the Susquehanna Boom leftover from the lumber era. It was a great opportunity to experience a touch of history along the river!



## Intro to Kayak Fishing Workshops

In 2023, SGP also collaborated with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission to host several Intro to Kayak Fishing Workshops, one at Montour Preserve on May 21, 2023, and one at Susquehanna State Park in Williamsport on August 20, 2023. To kick off the day, participants learned introductory paddling information and received some initial instruction on how to fish from a kayak. They then had the opportunity to try out these new skills on water!



## Paddler's Toolkit Workshops

Following the popularity of our 2021 & 2022 workshops, SGP again partnered with Pennsylvania Master Naturalist to provide several Paddler's Toolkit Workshops in 2023. The Paddler's Toolkits provided attendees with information and resources to enhance their next paddling adventure through a two-part training that covered river ecology and the ins and outs of preparing for and undertaking a paddling trip on the Susquehanna River. In the afternoon, participants took part in an on-water paddle to put their newly learned skills into practice. Sessions were held in Tunkhannock (May) and Columbia (July). A session for Danville in June was scheduled but cancelled due to inclement weather.



## Water Trail Stewards

With over 263 miles of water trail along the West Branch and Lower North Branch of the Susquehanna River Water Trail, SGP relies on volunteers to help us monitor and report on this vast range of river accesses during the paddling season. In 2023, SGP was assisted by 19 all-volunteer Water Trail Stewards. Stewards assisted SGP through the adoption of boat launches near their homes. Three times during the season, Stewards visited their launch(s), checked the conditions of signage and infrastructure, took photos, and provided recommendations on any needed improvements. We would like to extend a big **THANK YOU** to these volunteers who help keep the boat launches in tip-top shape for paddlers!



## Lycoming County Wayfinding: The Long Reach Trail

In 2023, SGP continued to work with partners in Lycoming County on efforts to brand and sign the 10.5-mile system of trail between South Williamsport, Williamsport, Montoursville and Loyalsock Township. A collective name for the network was determined: The Long Reach Trail—an ode to the area’s lumber history. The section of river from Lock Haven to Montoursville/Muncy area was called the Long Reach because it was relatively straighter than other sections of the river and this is the reason Williamsport was chosen as a pivotal point for logging. Following the naming, the partners also moved forward with new logos and branding for the trail to be used on future signage.



## MSATC Updates

SGP serves as the Vice Chair of the Middle Susquehanna Active Transportation Committee (MSATC)—a seven-county coalition of partners whose mission is to improve bike and pedestrian safety and infrastructure in the Middle Susquehanna Region of Clinton, Lycoming, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, Columbia, and Montour counties. In 2023, MSATC meetings hosted speakers to cover topics of interest, such as ongoing projects and programs associated with active transportation within the Commonwealth and the findings of Bloomsburg’s bicycle and pedestrian planning effort: “Walk it, Bike It Bloomsburg.” The MSATC also moved two trail counters from trails in Union County to two locations in Clinton County, partnering with Bucknell University to analyze the data, began updating their Complete Streets plan, and worked on the creation of a new website specific to Active Transportation in the Middle Susquehanna Region.

## Mini-Grant Recipients Announced

Recipients of the Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant Program were awarded in late 2023. Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation was awarded funds for improvements to the Lewisburg Railroad Bridge, and the Montour Area Recreation Commission was awarded funding to install signage at the J. Manley Robbins Trail in Danville. With funds remaining, SGP also announced a second round of grant funding in 2024.



# Education & Outreach

SGP's Education and Outreach Program works to promote and educate the public about the Susquehanna Greenway, its ongoing projects, and the many outdoor opportunities and amenities within the corridor. We also aim to recognize and highlight the people who make the Greenway possible, inform and engage the public, and promote the responsible and safe use of the Susquehanna Greenway's trails, parks, and River Towns.







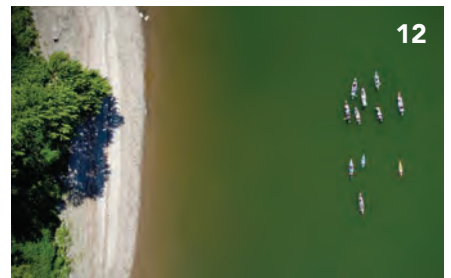
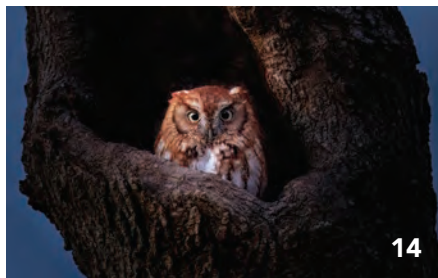
# Celebrating the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Photo Contest

Each year, the Susquehanna Greenway photo contest showcases the treasured towns and landscapes of the Susquehanna Greenway and celebrates the photographers who capture its singular beauty. The winning photos make up SGP's travelling gallery, which is exhibited throughout the Susquehanna region within Pennsylvania over the following year.

The 12th Annual Photo contest brought in some stunning photography, and our judges certainly had their work cut out for them. Winning photos were selected out of four categories: Landscapes, River Towns, Susquehanna Adventures, and Wildlife.

Since all qualifying photos were taken within the Susquehanna Greenway, the photo contest provides a unique window into the opportunities and landscapes along the Greenway. As the traveling gallery moves from place to place, so do the scenes of the Susquehanna, encouraging viewers from across the Commonwealth to "Get out on the Greenway" and discover the beauty and resources of the Susquehanna River corridor.

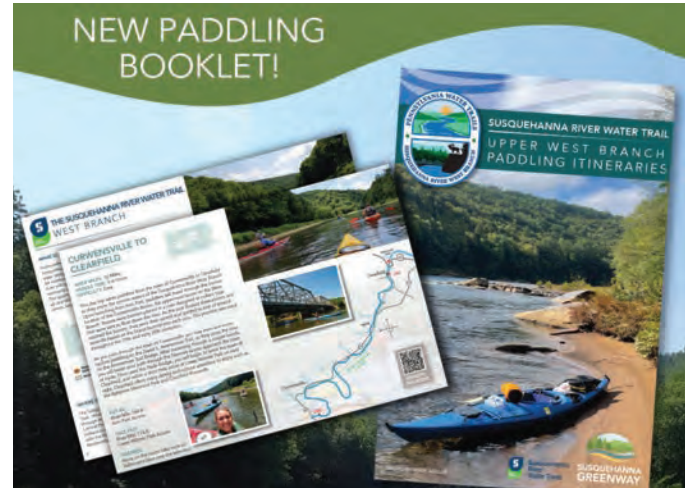
1. First Place River Towns and Grand Prize Winner – Ryan Sotelo, Bloomsburg PA
2. First Place Adventures – Jimmy Tighe, Sunbury PA
3. First Place Landmarks – Kerri Batrowny, Bainbridge PA
4. First Place Wildlife – Rita Scholl, Selinsgrove PA
5. First Place People's Choice – Brian Anderson, Harrisburg PA
6. Second Place River Towns – Kari Hultman, Harrisburg PA
7. Second Place Adventures – Steph Lord-Wetherington, Clearfield PA
8. Second Place Landmarks – Michael Yatsko, Dauphin PA
9. Second Place Wildlife – Andrew Hayter, Harrisburg PA
10. Second Place People's Choice – Jimmy Tighe, Sunbury PA
11. Third Place River Towns – Rita Scholl, Sunbury PA
12. Third Place Adventures – Alex Maleski, West Falls PA
13. Third Place Landmarks – Dustin Underkoffler, Dauphin PA
14. Third Place Wildlife – Mark Boyd, Conestoga PA
15. Third Place People's Choice – Dustin Underkoffler, Marietta PA





## Tabling Events & Presentations

Each season, SGP works to get out on the ground and share our free resources with the public at community events and festivals across the Commonwealth. In 2023, SGP engaged with outdoor enthusiasts at the Montgomery River Fest in June, Ned Smith Nature & Art Festival in July, the Bloomsburg Art Fest in August, the Clearfield County Conservation Celebration in September, and Bucknell University's Annual River Symposium in November.



## Clearfield Paddling Booklet

In early 2023, SGP was excited to announce the release of a new paddling resource that features day and overnight paddling itineraries along the beautiful and wild Susquehanna River Water Trail – West Branch in Clearfield County. The paddling booklet showcases four daytrips along the West Branch within Clearfield County, plus a bonus two-day trip that connects into Centre and Clinton counties. The best part: it's FREE and available at all SGP events!



## New Shop Items

In an effort to be creative with our fundraising and provide some fun merchandise to our dedicated followers, SGP added a few new items to our online shop. These products included a Susquehanna River Educational Poster and Susquehanna Greenway-themed Hawaiian shirts. The poster was added in response to multiple requests after the graphic was shared on social media. A discount on the poster is available to educators by emailing [info@susquehannagreenway.org](mailto:info@susquehannagreenway.org). The Hawaiian shirts are made of a UV-resistant, stretchy, and breathable fabric will keep you looking and feeling cool during any outdoor adventure! Both items may be purchased at [susquehannagreenway.org/shop](https://susquehannagreenway.org/shop).



## News & Stories

SGP's Education & Outreach team also promotes the events and resources of the Susquehanna Greenway through periodic news and stories on our website. In 2023, releases included "The Susquehanna Greenway: a Corridor for Wildlife," "Benefits of a Morning Paddle," and "10 State Parks of the Susquehanna Greenway," among others. An inventory of these articles and others can be viewed at [susquehannagreenway.org/news-stories](https://susquehannagreenway.org/news-stories).



# WHAT IS THE Susquehanna Greenway ANYWAY?

The Susquehanna Greenway is a corridor of land & water trails, parks, river accesses, and communities that allow the public to walk, bike, or paddle along the Susquehanna River within Pennsylvania. It extends 1-3 miles on either side of the river depending on the geography.



**LEARN MORE**  
SUSQUEHANNAGREENWAY.ORG





# River Towns

SGP's River Towns Program works within communities throughout the Susquehanna Greenway to envision, prioritize, and implement community-led projects that reconnect residents back to the Susquehanna River, create trails and river accesses, and interpret the community's natural and cultural assets. SGP's vision is to connect these towns to the river and to each other through the Susquehanna Greenway.

Wrightsville, PA  
Photo by John Reitzel





Danville PA

# Susquehanna Greenway Communities Celebrate Earth Week

In April 2023, communities across the region were alive with volunteers in celebration of Earth Week and the 3rd Annual Susquehanna Greenway Cleanup Week.

During April 12 – 29, 2023, twenty partnering communities and organizations from across the Commonwealth organized 26 events that attracted over 900 volunteers and collectively removed 29,838 pounds of litter from area parks, trails, and communities along the Susquehanna River.

Events organized and led by local groups and organizations were held in the communities of Athens, Sayre, Sugar Run Tunkhannock, Bloomsburg, Danville, Jersey Shore, Newberry, Williamsport, Loyalsock Township, Lewisburg, Milton, Montgomery, Watsonstown, Harrisburg, Selinsgrove, Sunbury, Pequea, York, and Columbia.

“The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership created the Susquehanna Greenway Cleanup Week as a means of gathering communities and volunteers together to positively give back to the Susquehanna River and Susquehanna Greenway,” explains SGP Executive Director Corey Ellison. “In just two years, we have seen the number of cleanups triple and spread across the state. We are thrilled with the response of this year’s event and thank the partners, River Town Teams, and the many volunteers for their hard work.”

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) supports cleanup efforts and events in a variety of ways depending on the experience and needs of

the event host. Assistance includes convening the interested parties, providing promotional assistance, sharing resources for event planning and organization, answering questions and offering support for litter disposal, soliciting volunteers, identifying locations and coordinating with site owners, hosting groups, and securing no-cost cleanup materials such as bags, gloves, and safety vests. These supplies were acquired through the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful initiative, which offers registered events free materials via a collaborative partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PennDOT, and Keep America Beautiful Program.

The astounding results are as follows:

**Athens & Sayre:** 16 volunteers led by Futurescapes cleaned up 100 pounds of trash along the Diahoga Trail between Athens & Sayre.

**Sugar Run:** 10 volunteers led by Endless Mountains Heritage Region collected 580 pounds of trash from the Susquehanna River in Bradford County.

**Tunkhannock:** 8 volunteers led by Endless Mountains Heritage Region collected 697 pounds of trash from the Susquehanna River in Wyoming County.

**Bloomsburg:** 13 volunteers cleared 180 pounds of trash from along Fort McClure Boulevard during a cleanup facilitated by the Town of Bloomsburg.



**Danville:** Coordinated by the Montour Area Recreation Commission, 68 volunteers gathered 1,400 pounds of litter from Hess Recreation Area, Hopewell Park / Danville Borough Farm Trail System, Riverside Borough River Access, Montgomery Park River Access, North Branch Canal Trail Trailhead / River Access, North Branch Canal Trail, Montour Preserve, and Washingtonville Borough.

**Jersey Shore:** 100 volunteers from the Jersey Shore High School Outdoor Club picked up 600 pounds of trash from several locations throughout the community.

**Newberry:** 60 volunteers led by the Newberry Community Partnership cleaned up 370 pounds of litter from the Newberry neighborhood within Williamsport.

**Williamsport:** 30 volunteers from Lycoming College, West Branch Valley Association of REALTORS, Kohls, and other volunteers from the Williamsport Area (led by the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership), collectively gathered 295 pounds of trash from along the Susquehanna River Walk.

**Loyalsock Township:** 4 volunteers from Verilife cleared 130 pounds of litter from the Loyalsock Bikeway in Loyalsock Township.



Harrisburg PA



Selinsgrove PA

**Lewisburg:** 15 volunteers with Lewisburg Neighborhoods cleaned up 447 pounds of trash from the Bull Run Neighborhood and 6 volunteers with the Buffalo Creek Watershed Association cleared 470 pounds of additional trash (including 19 tires) from Campbell Mill Road along the Creek.

**Milton:** 8 volunteers from the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership staff and board of directors cleared 204 pounds of trash from Milton State Park.

**Montgomery:** 9 volunteers from Montgomery Borough cleaned up 800 pounds of litter from Montgomery Park.

**Watson:** 6 volunteers from RSVP AmeriCorps Seniors cleared 130 pounds of trash from Watson Park.

**Harrisburg:** 13 volunteers from Schneider Electric cleared over 400 pounds of trash during a cleanup facilitated by Dauphin County Parks & Recreation. 6 volunteers from Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. picked up an additional 27 bags worth of litter along Industrial Road, by HACC Harrisburg Campus and Wildwood Park. Additionally, 400 volunteers led by Tri County Community Action collected 14,000 pounds of trash from the Harrisburg area.

**Selinsgrove:** 12 volunteers from Susquehanna University, led by the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, collected 130 pounds of trash from along Penns Creek and the creekside parks of Selinsgrove. An Earth Day Celebration was also held by Citizen’s Climate Lobby at East Snyder Park.

**Sunbury:** 175 volunteers led by the Susquehanna River Cleanup Project cleared 2 dumpsters full of litter, totaling 8,500 pounds.

**Pequea & York:** Volunteers assisted Lancaster Conservancy by removing invasive plants from Climbers Run Nature Center and Wizard Ranch Nature Preserve.

**Columbia:** Sahd Metal Recycling held their 17th Annual Earth Day Celebration.

SGP could not be happier with the enthusiasm shown for the cleanup and would like to thank the partnering organizations and dedicated volunteers who helped make this initiative a success!



Williamsport, PA  
Photo by Gerry Dincher

### Williamsport: One Of Pennsylvania’s Most Beautiful Cities

In 2023, an article by *World Atlas* named Williamsport as one of the 9 Most Beautiful Cities in Pennsylvania. Highlights included the city’s higher education & the arts as well as a bustling hub of finance, all within a ‘charming historic atmosphere.’ Williamsport’s gorgeous architecture from the 18th and 19th centuries was mentioned, with these homes and buildings housing cafes, museums, and friendly hospitality. *World Atlas* also noted the opportunity for outdoor lovers to spend time on the Susquehanna, with plenty of opportunities for hikers, joggers, cyclers, and boaters.



### New PA Route Added To U.S. Bicycle Route System



USBR 11 was recently added to the United States network of officially designated, numbered, and signed routes that use existing roads, trails, and other facilities appropriate for bike travel. The new route passes through the Susquehanna Greenway River Towns of Jersey Shore, Lock Haven, Lewisburg, & Selinsgrove. Scan the code to view an interactive map of the route and others within the network.

# Partners

SGP is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the Susquehanna Greenway and its corridor of conserved lands, trails, and communities that run along the Susquehanna River within Pennsylvania. SGP could not, however, accomplish all of the great work within the Greenway without our valued network of partners and local community organizations. Here are some outstanding examples of partner work accomplished in 2023.





### Fish Passage Construction in Sunbury

August of 2023 marked an exciting end to construction for the new fish passage in Sunbury. The \$3.3 million 900-foot-long stream can be found at the western end of the Adam T. Bower Memorial Dam. According to DCNR, the passage allows for water to pass around the structure of the dam and through the stream. The slope throughout the passage creates approximately 10 feet in elevation, allowing aquatic life to safely pass over the dam and into Lake Augusta.



### E-bikes Policy Implemented by DCNR

A new policy regarding e-bikes on DCNR trails went into effect in early 2023. The policy allows for e-bikes, or electronic bikes, to be utilized on DCNR trails that are open to traditional bikes. Not only does this new implementation allow additional accessibility, but it also gives the opportunity for extra outdoor recreation use. Please be aware that your e-bike must meet certain regulations and permission for e-bikes does not apply to every DCNR trail. Scan the code above to view details.



### Bucknell Greenway Grand Opening

On Earth Day, April 22, 2023, Bucknell University celebrated the grand opening of a 4-mile multi-use path across campus. The Bucknell Greenway, which has been a 10+ year project, connects the main campus of the university to the athletic fields across RT-15. The opening of the new trail was a part of Earth Day celebrations at Bucknell University and offers new connections between the university and the Susquehanna Greenway River Town of Lewisburg.



Muncy PA



Winfield PA

## New Boat Launches on the West Branch

2023 also saw the opening of two new boat launches on the Susquehanna River Water Trail West Branch in Winfield and in Muncy. In May, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission held a celebratory ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Winfield Access. This new boat launch can be accessed beneath the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation bridge. In October, a grand opening was also held for the Representative Garth Everett Muncy Access. This opening marked outstanding improvement to an older launch that was previously closed due to sediment buildup and unsafe conditions.



## Dam Removal on the North Branch

In September 2023, work was completed on removal of the Oakland Dam on the Great Bend section of the Susquehanna River’s North Branch. This project opens up 50 miles that will create a better environment for wildlife and expand access to outdoor recreation. Local officials and environmental groups were involved in the dam removal process. Their goal—to remove the longtime barrier for paddlers and the movement of aquatic life. The removal of the dam now allows for 250 miles of the Susquehanna to be an unimpeded passage for both wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts. Scan the code to read more about this impressive project and the partners involved.



### Turtle Creek Park Conserved

In 2023, the Merrill W. Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy and East Buffalo Township worked together to craft a conservation easement for Turtle Creek Park to be conserved as a public open space. The park, located in East Buffalo Township, offers 79 acres of woodlands, hills, fields, streams, and wetlands. The project was supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources and a gift from the Degenstein Foundation.



### Safe Harbor Trestle Bridge Opening Ceremony

In June of 2023, an opening and dedication was held for the Safe Harbor Trestle Bridge on the Enola Low Grade Trail. Community leaders of Manor Township funded this project for residents to enjoy and experience the views of the Susquehanna River. This amazing project connects two major pieces of the 29-mile Enola Low Grade Trail in Lancaster County and offers some stunning Susquehanna views!



### Miller Mountain Preserved In Tunkhannock

In late 2023, Williams partnered with DCNR and The Conservation Fund to preserve the landmark known as Miller Mountain. Serving as a scenic backdrop to the Susquehanna Greenway River Town of Tunkhannock, the property provides critical habitat for migratory birds, black bears, white-tailed deer and bobcats, and supports headwater streams of the Susquehanna River watershed. It adds 2,500 acres to Pinchot State Forest and is open to the public for recreation. Scan the code to read more about this exciting news for outdoor recreation.





# Meet Our Team

*Tunkhannock Riverside Park  
Wyoming County*

## SGP Staff (current)



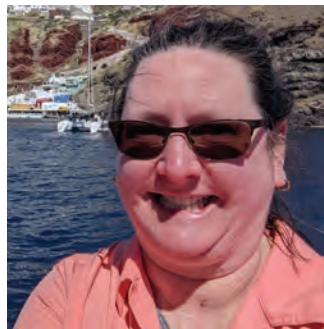
**Leslie Warriner**  
Executive Director



**Alana Jajko**  
Director of Communications  
& Outreach



**Poppy Breining**  
Director of Trails  
& Recreation



**Sara Maul**  
Administrative &  
Operations Assistant

## SGP Board (2023)

Bob Rolley, *Chair*  
Eve Adrian, *Vice Chair*  
Jason Fitzgerald, *Treasurer*  
Carrie Pauling, *Secretary*  
Kyle Benson            John George  
Bill Brobst             Mike Wiley  
Pam Burns             Shea Zwerver  
Amy Cotner

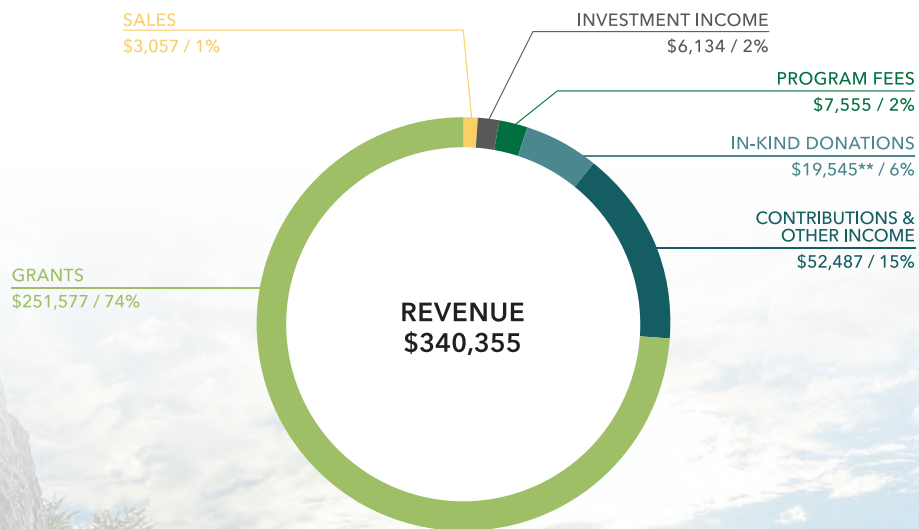
## SGP Advisors

Jerry Walls             Jessica Martin  
Erica Shames           Kalin Palmatier  
Richard Koch           Eric Young



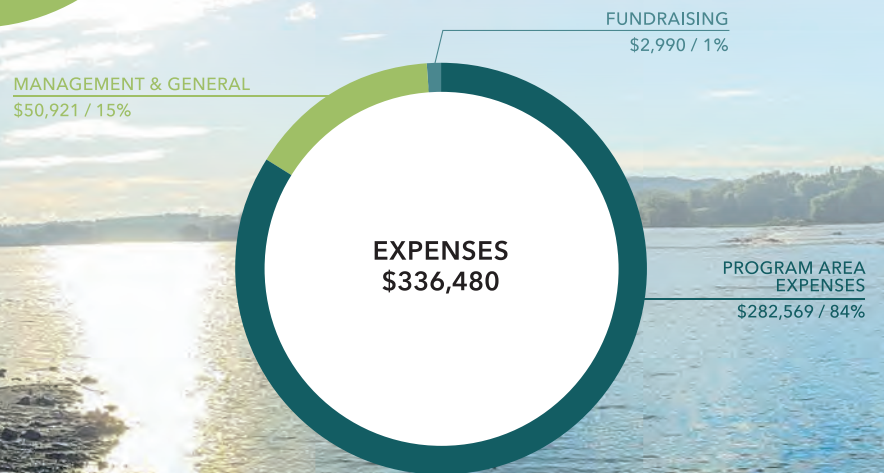
*Photo by Dustin Underkoffler*

# Financials



\*Overall gross sales were \$6,250. Upfront cost of merchandise was \$3,193, resulting in a profit of \$3,057.

\*\* Due to the generosity of our partners, volunteers, and supporters, this was the number reported on the 990, but the actual in-kind services and donations far exceeded this number.



White Cliffs of Conoy  
Photo by Dustin Underkoffler

# Thank You!

## Corporate Donors

Bad Adventures  
Citizens' Electric Company  
Cole's Hardware  
First Columbia Bank & Trust Co  
Giant Food Stores, LLC  
Lumber Heritage Region  
Lycoming County Visitors Bureau  
M&T Charitable Foundation  
Service Electric Cablevision  
Susquehanna Community Bank  
Susquehanna River Valley  
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Williamsport Sun Gazette



# Volunteer Highlight

Volunteers lie at the heart of SGP's efforts. Their generosity and dedication allow us to monitor trails and river accesses, host engaging events, and spread awareness of the outdoor opportunities the Greenway has to offer. Each volunteer brings a different background and skillset to the table, and our work would not be possible without them.



In July 2019, Carrie Pauling was elected to the SGP Board of Directors and has since actively volunteered at SGP events. According to Carrie:

"When I'm happy and feeling energized, my first thought is to get out in nature, to paddle or hike. When I'm stressed, the prescription is the same—get outside! No matter the circumstance, getting on the river, or hiking trails nearby is my answer to staying physically and emotionally healthy. But I kept visiting the same spots, mostly because I didn't know of many others. Putting my kayak in the same few launches, paddling the same stretches of water. Hiking a handful of trails. Even though I had lived in the area for nearly 20 years before discovering the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP), I didn't know what was really out there.

SGP opened up a world of opportunity: maps, advice, inspiring photographs of places I wanted to visit, and interactive information on the web. I learned that the organization is a group of dedicated outdoor enthusiasts, planning professionals, and stewards of the treasured resources we have. Lending my time as a volunteer is a way of giving back in a tiny way to the landscape that supports me in my best and worst times. Lending my time as a board member keeps me invested in an organization that is continually working toward making the greenway accessible, sustainable, and more connected. I'm lucky to be a part of it."

SGP is so grateful to volunteers like Carrie, and to all those who value the Susquehanna River and dedicate their time to strengthening connections along the Susquehanna Greenway.

**Want to Get Involved? There are so many great ways to support the Greenway!**

- [Become a Volunteer Ambassador](#)
- [Become a Greenway Photographer](#)
- [Donate Directly to the Greenway](#)
- [Become a Water Trail Steward](#)
- [Visit the SGP Shop online](#)



To learn more about these opportunities, visit [SusquehannaGreenway.org](https://SusquehannaGreenway.org) or email [info@susquehannagreenway.org](mailto:info@susquehannagreenway.org).