



VISIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

THE MIFFLIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2014

April 24, 2014

Mifflin County Board of Commissioners
Resolution No. 23 of 2014
ADOPTION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners is committed to fostering proper growth and development through effective planning to maintain the quality of life enjoyed by the residents of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognized that the most effective means of achieving the goal of proper planning was to update the Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, Section 301.4 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act of 1968, P.L. 805, No. 247, as reenacted and amended) requires that counties prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan, and that municipal plans be generally consistent with the adopted county comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Mifflin County Planning Commission serves as the official planning agency for Mifflin County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners authorized the Mifflin County Planning Commission and the staff of the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department to undertake such a Comprehensive Plan in response to ongoing changes occurring in the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners wanted to encourage community input in planning for the County's future and appointed a Planning Advisory Committee composed of Planning Commission members and representatives from municipalities, the school district, and private sector interests; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, through the Planning Advisory Committee, undertook a public involvement process by: developing and mailing a community survey to 2,500 randomly chosen County households; conducting thirty-five key person interviews to gain their insights on existing conditions and issues under their purview; hosting three public meetings and making two presentations to the Mifflin County Association of Elected Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, this draft Plan addresses many critical issues facing the County, including economic development, land use, housing, community services and facilities, transportation, historical and cultural features, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan is a tool to promote economic and community development as well as protect farms, natural resources, and other features important to sustain the vitality of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Plan entitled "Visions to the 21st Century" in its entirety has been recommended by the Mifflin County Planning Commission for adoption by the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the required public meeting and public hearing have been held by the Planning Commission on February 27, 2014, and by the County Commissioners on April 24, 2014, respectively.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of Mifflin County hereby adopt the Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan, "Visions to the 21st Century," dated April 24, 2014, as the official Comprehensive Plan for the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that:

1. The Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners as the official Comprehensive Plan of Mifflin County, supersedes the Plan adopted in 2000;
2. The Mifflin County Board of Commissioners will follow the guidelines and policies presented in the Plan when dealing with planning issues requiring action by the Board;
3. The Mifflin County Board of Commissioners strongly encourages all Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Departments as well municipalities in Mifflin County to follow the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan that may apply to them.
4. The Chief Clerk of the County shall distribute copies of this Resolution to the proper officers and other personnel of Mifflin County whose further action is necessary to achieve the purpose of this Resolution.

Adopted this 24th day of April 2014.

MIFFLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Mark A. Sunderland, Chairman



Otis E. Riden, Jr., Vice Chairman

Attest:



Cathy Romig, Chief Clerk



Kevin P. Kodish

VISIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

THE MIFFLIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2014

April 24, 2014

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MIFFLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Kevin P. Kodish

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James Lettiere, AICP, CDBG Administrator/
Assistant Director

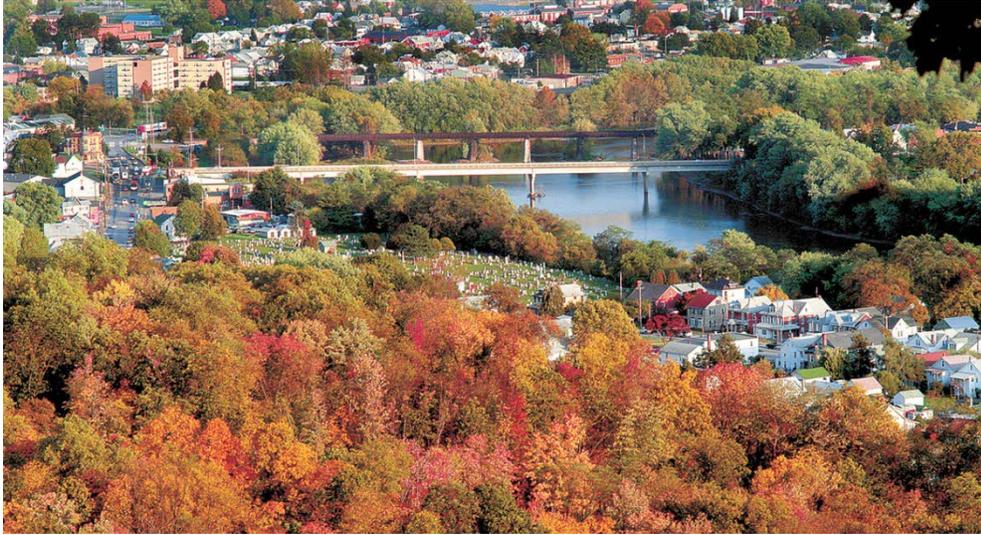
MIFFLIN COUNTY GIS DEPARTMENT

Laura Simonetti, Director

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Craig Bubb, Municipal Authority of the Borough of
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Kay Hamilton, Lewistown Hospital
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Brent Miller, Menno Township
Phyllis Mitchell, Lewistown Hospital (Alternate)
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Robert Postal, Mifflin County Industrial Development
Corporation
Theodore Reed, Wayne Township
Kent Spicher, Union Township
James Tunall, Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce &
Visitors Bureau
Tom White, Oliver Township
Noah Wise, Burnham Borough

Funding for the Comprehensive Plan update was provided by Mifflin County Board of Commissioners, including funds from the County Community Development Block Grant program and the County Community Services Block Grant program, with contributions from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation, the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown, Derry Township, and Lewistown Hospital. The plan reflects the official policies of Mifflin County but not necessarily the policies of the supplemental funding agencies. Likewise, the plan's contents do not constitute the standards, specifications or regulations of non-County agencies.



CHAPTER I

PLAN PURPOSE, ADOPTION AND MAINTENANCE

INTRODUCTION TO MIFFLIN COUNTY

Mifflin County is located in central Pennsylvania, 30 miles southwest of State College and 60 miles northwest of Harrisburg. The County encompasses 415 square miles of forested ridge and agricultural valley terrain along the Juniata River and its tributaries. The County seat is the Borough of Lewistown, settled in 1795. During the 19th Century, the County was a commercial and transportation hub for goods moved along the main line of the Pennsylvania Canal and the Pennsylvania Railroad between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Its state and regional significance continued in the 20th century through iron ore mining, iron fabrication, and cloth and shirt making industries.

Figure1-1 Mifflin County's Location in Central Pennsylvania



Source: MCGIS, 2014

Pennsylvania's County Code, established by Section 210 of the Legislative Act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323), as amended, classifies counties based on decennial population counts. With a 2010 population of 46,682, Mifflin County is currently classified as a Sixth Class County, having a population between 45,000 and 94,999 inhabitants, or having a population between 35,000 and 44,999 and that elects to be a county of the sixth class by ordinance or resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. Mifflin County is projected to grow slowly through 2040 and its county classification is not projected to change.

The County's 2010 population was 46,682, an increase of just 196 residents since 2000.

PLAN PURPOSE AND PREPARATION

The comprehensive plan is the official statement of public policy by the Board of Commissioners pertaining to growth and development in Mifflin County. The plan is intended as a guide for the executive (budgeting) and legislative (regulatory) decisions by the Commissioners and County staff and should serve as the basis for improvements and services where the County is responsible. As public policy, the plan can be referenced by municipal officials and authorities, other government agencies, private citizens, and the business community in decision-making.

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) (Act 247 of 1968, as reenacted and amended) requires that a comprehensive plan consider many factors that influence a community's development, such as location, character, and timing of future development. Essentially, a comprehensive plan provides a blueprint for future housing, transportation, community facilities, services and utilities, and land use. The Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan was prepared in accordance with the MPC, which includes the recent amendments pursuant to Acts 67 and 68 of 2000.

The comprehensive plan is the official statement of public policy by the Board of Commissioners pertaining to growth and development.

Mifflin County adopted its first comprehensive plan in 1975 and its most recent renewed plan, Paths and Bridges, in 2000. Pathways and Bridges, the County's Comprehensive Plan, has served the County well, providing a sound blueprint for the County's community and economic development initiatives. Specifically, this policy document has supported infrastructure maintenance and improvements, service extensions, economic development activities and additional planning efforts led or supported by County departments. The Plan has provided the foundation for the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, an important funding source for water and sewer improvements and service extensions; parks; housing rehabilitation; and health and child care services. In addition, it has supported education and training for County and municipal officials as well as staff on contemporary land use and transportation planning topics.

WHY DOES THE PLAN NEED TO BE UPDATED?

Due to the release of 2010 census data, the completion of three major highway improvement projects and numerous environmental plans and studies, the approval of several large-scale land developments, changes in the local economy, and the requirement that county comprehensive plans be reviewed every ten years, the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners decided in 2011 to update the comprehensive plan. The Board directed the Planning and Development Department to prepare the update.

With regard to land use and transportation, the Plan Update needs to:

- Integrate growth management and conservation policies from the County's Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan (2010); Natural Heritage Inventory (2007); Hazard Mitigation Plan (pending adoption); the Water Supply Plan (prepared 2000), the Public Sewer Plan (2008), and the Act 167 Countywide Stormwater Management Plan (2010).
- Demonstrate Smart Transportation Policy, including right-sized projects for land use transportation conditions.
- Sustain support for worthy projects, including those in the SEDA-Council of Government's Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Plan, as well as PennDOT's Twelve-Year Plan.
- Utilize land use and transportation recommendations to support economic development opportunities.

With regard to housing, economic development, community infrastructure and services, and overall implementation, the Plan Update needs to:

- Provide continued direction and focus for Mifflin County's economic development efforts led by the Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation.
- Regroup and reenergize the public-private partnerships, e.g., Team Mifflin County.
- Provide continued direction and focus for revitalizing downtown Lewistown and its neighborhoods.
- Capture direct and indirect economic development gains from the Marcellus Shale industry and consider future potential of the Utica Share formation.
- Sustain support for worthy projects to be funded by the County's Community Development Block Grant Program.
- Utilize land use and transportation recommendations to support economic development

HOW IS THE PLANNING EFFORT FUNDED?

The Board of Commissioners allocated County funds, Community Development Block Grant funds, and Community Services Block Grant funds to support a portion of the project cost. Funding assistance for transportation and land use elements was successfully obtained from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation via the Susquehanna Economic Development Agency-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG), which serves as Mifflin County's transportation planning agency.

Additional support was provided by the Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation, Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown, Derry Township, and the Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital.

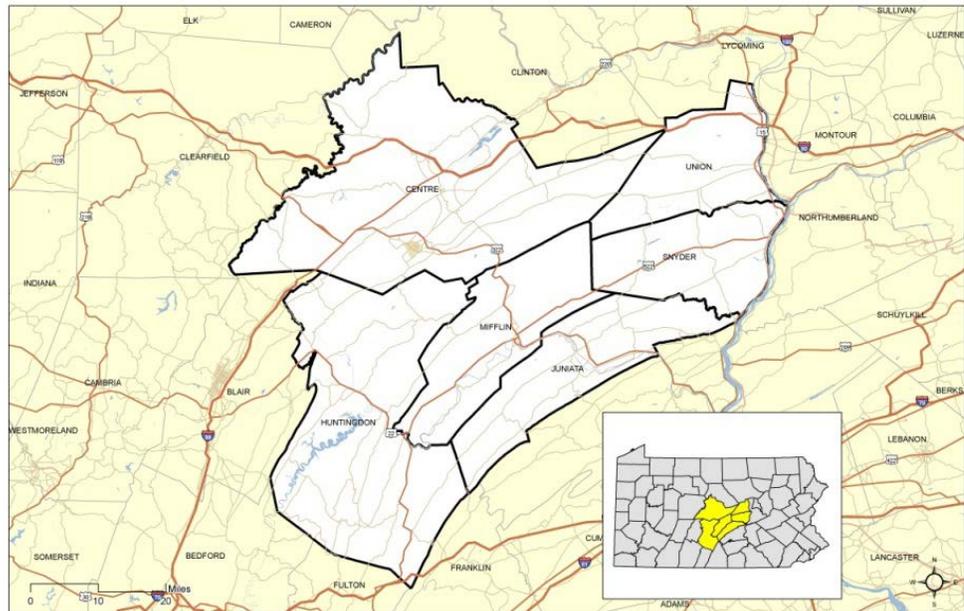
HOW IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PREPARED?

A comprehensive plan consists of three integral components: 1) background studies outlining analysis of current conditions, recent trends, and issues of concern; 2) the community's goals and objectives; and 3) policy action plans for land use, housing, transportation, community facilities, services and utilities, economic development, and natural and historic resources protection, including a safe water supply and agricultural land.

TO WHAT DOES THE PLAN COMPARE MIFFLIN COUNTY'S CONDITIONS?

For some metrics, the County trend over time is important. For others, the comprehensive plan compares County statistics to those of surrounding counties and the state of Pennsylvania as a relative measure of performance and quality of life. See Figure 1-2 for an illustration of the adjacent counties.

Figure 1-2 Region of Comparative Analysis



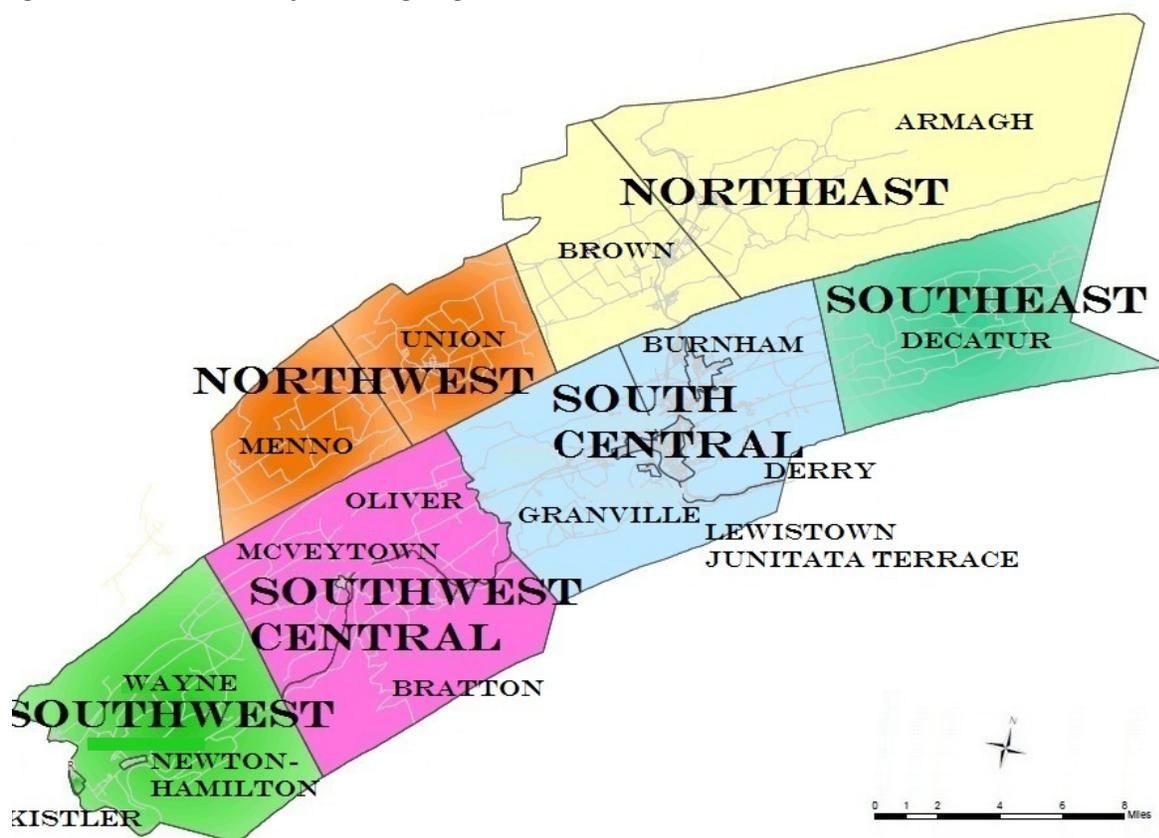
Source: Delta Development Group

WHAT ARE PLANNING REGIONS?

Mifflin County’s six planning regions, established in the 1975 Comprehensive Plan, are useful for examining local trends and targeting assistance programs to eligible areas of the County. The most populous planning region is the South Central Region, representing Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs and Derry and Granville Townships. The Southwest Region represents Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township, and the Southwest Central Region represents McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. Decatur Township is a region itself (Southeast Region). Neither the Northwest Region (Menno and Union Townships) nor the Northeast Region (Brown and Armagh Townships) contain a Borough but each has a small population center in Belleville and Milroy, respectively. See Figure 1-3 for an illustration of the planning regions.

The planning regions are useful for targeting programs to eligible areas of the County.

Figure 1-3 Mifflin County Planning Regions



Source: Mifflin County GIS, September 2012

WERE CITIZENS REPRESENTED AND INVOLVED IN THE PLAN'S PREPARATION?

A 17-member Planning Advisory Committee met over two years to help prepare the plan update.

Community involvement is vital in assessing the needs of citizens, refining and developing policies, and identifying and prioritizing actions needed to meet citizens' needs. To encourage wider understanding and support for the comprehensive plan, the County Commissioners appointed a 17-member Planning Advisory Committee. The committee's membership included representatives of the Mifflin County Planning Commission, business community, various municipalities within the County, Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation, Mifflin County School District, United Way of Mifflin-Juniata, Lewistown Hospital, the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown and the Mifflin County Conservation District. The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department held eight committee meetings over two years to ask for stakeholder perspective and direction for the plan update.

Community involvement in this planning effort also included:

- A 2011 Quality of Life Survey, which was direct-mailed to a random sample of 2500 County households and received a 31 percent response rate
- 35 Key Person or Agency Interviews
- A September 27, 2012 mid-preparation public meeting hosted by the Mifflin County Planning Commission
- Updates on the plan's preparation to the Mifflin County Association of Elected Township Officials in Fall 2012 and Fall 2013
- Two October 2013 public meetings on the draft plan update, one convened by the Mifflin County Planning Commission and one hosted by the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce,
- A February 27, 2014 Planning Commission meeting to take comments and forward the draft plan to the Board of Commissions, the public, and review agencies as required by the MPC, and
- An April 24, 2014 Public Hearing on the draft plan convened by the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners, also required by the MPC.

Mifflin County citizens had several opportunities to voice their opinions about County growth and development policy.

PLAN ORGANIZATION

Chapters 2 through 9 constitute the background studies Mifflin County deemed necessary to update its community development goals and objectives. Chapters 10 through 16 comprise the goals and objectives or policies of the County, as well as action plans to move the County toward its goals. Other supporting documentation is included in the appendices.

PLAN REVIEW, ADOPTION AND MAINTENANCE

PLAN REVIEW AND ADOPTION

Article III, Section 302 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), sets forth the procedures for review and adoption of county comprehensive plans and amendments thereto.

Formal review of the Plan or amendment begins with the Mifflin County Planning Commission. Under Section 302, the Planning Commission is required to hold at least one public meeting prior to forwarding the plan to the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners for their consideration. The Planning Commission typically approves the distribution of the draft plan to municipalities and school districts within the respective county and contiguous counties, school districts, and municipalities for the duration of a 45 day review and comment period.

As the governing body reviews the draft plan, in this case the Board of Commissioners, it shall take into consideration comments on the plan. The Board of Commissioners is required to hold at least one public hearing prior to adoption of the plan or an amendment thereto. Adoption or amendment shall be by a resolution approved by a majority of the Board. The resolution shall refer expressly to the maps, charts, textual matter, and other matters intended to form the whole or part of the plan, and the action shall be recorded on the adopted plan or amendment. The adopting resolution is located after the cover page.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Board of Commissioners is ultimately responsible for implementation of the comprehensive plan. The Commissioners and their service departments will need to review the plan's priorities and the resources available to take the next steps. Yet the needs of Mifflin County will not be answered by County action alone. County leadership will need to partner with municipal, community and private leaders to leverage the funding, knowledge and expertise to make efficient and coordinated investments to maintain and improve the quality of life in Mifflin County.

PLAN MAINTENANCE

The Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan will only be useful if it is regularly used and updated. The Planning Commission should continue to submit an annual written report to the Board of Commissioners summarizing the past year's activities and the upcoming year's projected activities, including their relationship to the Comprehensive Plan, and identifying crucial issues that will or may impact the county. The Planning Commission should also evaluate the Comprehensive Plan and, if necessary, recommend modification of the plan to the Board of Commissioners to ensure the plan remains useful in guiding the future growth of the County and preservation of its resources and quality of life.



CHAPTER 2

POPULATION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

In order to prepare a comprehensive plan that is relevant to the community, we must understand the general characteristics of the community's residents. This chapter presents and analyzes the total number of people, the historical and projected changes in that total, and the distribution of demographic attributes such as age, gender, race, and ethnicity, as well as social and socio-economic characteristics. Data and analysis are presented for Pennsylvania, Mifflin County, and surrounding counties for all factors; municipal and planning region analyses are shown for only the most significant variables. All data is from the Census of Population and Housing, 1990 through 2010, unless noted.

POPULATION

In 2010, there were 46,682 persons residing in Mifflin County (Table 2-1). The County was 415 square miles in area, which translates to a population density of 112 persons per square mile. The County's population density was less than half that of the state (263.9 persons per square mile), comparable to Centre, Snyder and Union Counties, and approximately twice that of Huntingdon and Juniata Counties. In urban communities, population density can provide a measure of overcrowding; however, in rural areas, it is simply a statistic for relative comparison.

The U. S. Census Bureau prepares population estimates for the interim years between the census counts. The July 1, 2012 estimate for Mifflin County was 46,790. The July 1, 2013 estimate was 46,616. The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department estimated the 2013 population as approximately 46,820 based on local knowledge.

Mifflin County's growth has been slower than surrounding counties and focused in the Townships.

Juniata Terrace was the only borough to gain residents from 2000 to 2010.

POPULATION CHANGE

From 2000 to 2010, Mifflin County gained 196 residents (less than one percent) and grew at a much slower pace than surrounding counties (Table 2-1). Centre County grew by 13.4 percent and Juniata and Union Counties each grew by 8.0 percent. The disparity is more dramatic when measured over the past two decades, in which Mifflin County grew by 1.1 percent and surrounding counties grew by 4.0 to 24.4 percent.

MUNICIPALITIES

From 2000 to 2010, Granville Township had the largest population increase (+210 residents, a 4.3 percent increase), followed by Brown Township (+201 residents, a 5.2 percent increase) (Table 2-2). As a result of the increase in Brown Township, the Township surpassed a resident population of 4,000 – the threshold of eligibility for designation as an entitlement community for the federal Community Development Block Grant program. Union, Wayne, Menno, Decatur and Oliver Townships each gained more than 100 residents (growth rates of 3.8 percent to 6.8 percent) during this decade.

Nine of the ten townships had growth rates higher than the state average. Four townships had growth rates greater than five percent: Menno Township, 6.8 percent; and Wayne and Oliver Townships, each with 5.6 percent, and Brown Township, 5.2 percent. Decatur and Union Townships

Table 2-1 Population Change, 1990-2010

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Population							
1990	11,881,643	46,197	123,786	44,164	20,625	36,680	36,176
2000	12,281,054	46,486	135,758	45,586	22,821	37,546	41,624
2010	12,702,379	46,682	153,990	45,913	24,636	39,702	44,947
Numeric Population Change							
1990-2000	399,411	289	11,972	1,422	2,196	866	5,448
2000-2010	421,325	196	18,232	327	1,815	2,156	3,323
1990-2010	820,736	485	30,204	1,749	4,011	3,022	8,771
Percent Population Change							
1990-2000	3.36%	0.63%	9.67%	3.22%	10.65%	2.36%	15.06%
2000-2010	3.43%	0.42%	13.43%	0.72%	7.95%	5.74%	7.98%
1990-2010	6.91%	1.05%	24.40%	3.96%	19.45%	8.24%	24.25%
Population Density							
Area (sq. mi.)	45,019.6	415.0	1,115.0	894.6	386.3	327.4	318.0
1990	263.9	111.3	111.0	49.4	53.4	112.0	113.8
2000	272.8	112.0	121.8	51.0	59.1	114.7	130.9
2010	282.2	112.5	138.1	51.3	63.8	121.3	141.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

each had gains between 3.5 and 4.5 percent. The only Township to lose population was Armagh, which lost 125 residents, a 3.1 percent loss.

Based on growth rate alone, Juniata Terrace Borough was the fastest growing municipality during the 2000-2010 decade with an increase 8.0 percent. This occurred in stark contrast to all other boroughs in the County, which lost population. Population losses ranged from 24.6 percent in Newton Hamilton Borough (-67 residents) to 4.2 percent in Burnham Borough (-90 residents). Lewistown lost the largest number of residents (-660, a loss of 7.3 percent) from 2000 to 2010.

PLANNING REGIONS

As shown in Table 2-2, the Northwest Region had the largest absolute and percentage increases (267 residents, an increase of 5.3 percent) in the County between 2000 and 2010, while the South Central Region had the greatest absolute and percentage declines (-417 residents, a loss of 1.2 percent). All other regions grew rather modestly.

The 2000 Comprehensive Plan suggested that Brown Township would lead municipal population growth from 2000 to 2010. In fact, population growth in Granville Township exceeded that of Brown Township for this period. Like Brown, Armagh Township was expected to benefit improved highway access but lost population instead. The Northeast Region still grew, as Armagh's loss was offset by larger gains in Brown Township.

THE PLAIN SECT

"Plain Sect" is a general term used to describe Anabaptist denominations that stress voluntary church membership by adult baptism and the separation of church from government. Most Anabaptist groups also practice biblical pacifism (nonresistance), separation from worldly corruption, and church discipline.¹

¹ "About Anabaptist and Pietists." Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College. <http://www.etown.edu/centers/young-center/anabaptists.aspx>, accessed March 22, 2012.

Table 2-2 Population Change for Mifflin County Municipalities and Planning Regions, 1990-2010

Location	Total Population			Population Change			Population Density			
	1990	2000	2010	1990-2000 #	%	2000-2010 #	%	Area (sq.mi.)	1990	2010
Pennsylvania	11,881,643	12,281,054	12,702,379	399411	3.36%	421325	3.43%	44742.7	266	284
Mifflin County	46,197	46,486	46,682	289	0.63%	196	0.42%	431.1	107	108
Armagh Township	3,627	3,988	3,863	361	9.95%	-125	-3.13%	97.8	37	39
Bratton Township	1,427	1,259	1,317	-168	-11.77%	58	4.61%	34.7	41	38
Brown Township	3,320	3,852	4,053	532	16.02%	201	5.22%	34.4	97	118
Burnham Borough	2,197	2,144	2,054	-53	-2.41%	-90	-4.20%	1.3	1758	1643
Decatur Township	2,735	3,021	3,137	286	10.46%	116	3.84%	47.4	58	66
Derry Township	7,650	7,256	7,339	-394	-5.15%	83	1.14%	32.0	239	229
Granville Township	5,090	4,894	5,104	-196	-3.85%	210	4.29%	41.9	121	122
Juniata Terrace Borough	556	502	542	-54	-9.71%	40	7.97%	0.1	4633	4517
Kistler Borough	314	344	320	30	9.55%	-24	-6.98%	1.0	314	320
Lewistown Borough	9,341	8,998	8,338	-343	-3.67%	-660	-7.33%	2.1	4448	3970
McVeytown Borough	408	405	342	-3	-0.74%	-63	-15.56%	0.1	4080	3420
Menno Township	1,637	1,763	1,883	126	7.70%	120	6.81%	24.7	66	76
Newton-Hamilton Borough	287	272	205	-15	-5.23%	-67	-24.63%	0.2	1435	1025
Oliver Township	1,822	2,060	2,175	238	13.06%	115	5.58%	35.9	51	61
Union Township	3,265	3,313	3,460	48	1.47%	147	4.44%	27.0	121	128
Wayne Township	2,521	2,414	2,550	-107	-4.24%	136	5.63%	51.7	49	49
Planning Regions										
Northwest	4,902	5,076	5,343	174	3.55%	267	5.26%	51.7	95	103
Northeast	6,947	7,840	7,916	893	12.85%	76	0.97%	132.2	53	25
Southwest	3,122	3,030	3,075	-92	-2.95%	45	1.49%	52.9	59	58
SW Central	3,657	3,724	3,834	67	1.83%	110	2.95%	70.7	52	54
S Central	24,834	23,794	23,377	-1,040	-4.19%	-417	-1.75%	77.4	321	302
Southeast	2,735	3,021	3,137	286	10.46%	116	3.84%	47.4	58	66

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. **Southwest:** Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. **Southwest Central:** McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. **Southeast:** Decatur Township. **Northwest:** Menno and Union Townships. **Northeast:** Brown and Armagh Townships.

The Anabaptists comprise three primary denominations worldwide: Amish, Mennonite, and Brethren. All three adhere to traditional practices in their church life but views on contemporary secular culture and technology vary among them. Their large families and limited use of government services are of special interest to planners anticipating needs in the community.

The Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College estimated that there were 23 Amish church districts with a total population of 2,760 adults and children in the Mifflin County area in 2010,² – the second largest Amish settlement in Pennsylvania and the ninth largest in North America based on the number of church districts (Table 2-3) and the largest by the estimated population. Assuming the Amish

Table 2-3 The Twelve Largest Amish Settlements in North America (Approximate, as of July 2010)

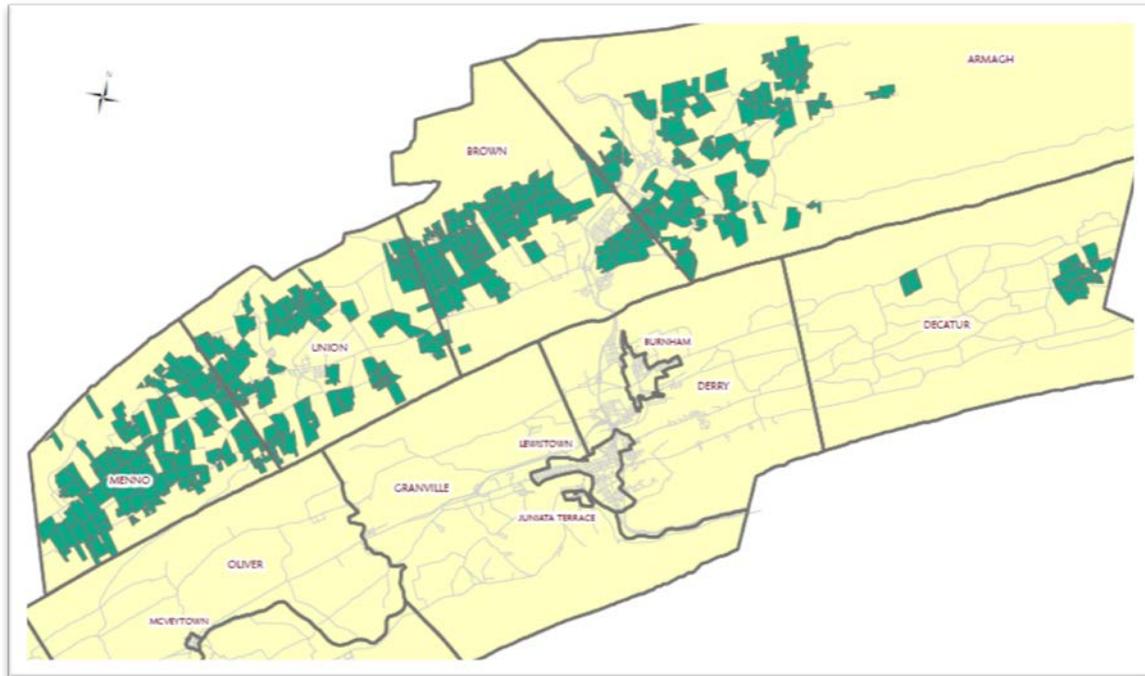
Settlement	State	Church Districts	Estimated Population
Holmes County Area	Ohio	227	29,510
Lancaster County Area	Pennsylvania	179	29,535
Elkhart/LaGrange Area	Indiana	137	19,180
Geauga County Area	Ohio	88	12,410
Adams County Area	Indiana	50	7,200
Nappanee Area	Indiana	37	4,920
Arthur Area	Illinois	28	3,920
Daviess County Area	Indiana	26	3,665
Mifflin County Area	Pennsylvania	23	2,760
Allen County Area	Indiana	19	2,735
Indiana County Area	Pennsylvania	18	2,395
New Wilmington Area	Pennsylvania	18	2,285

Note: The number of people in a church district varies by settlement. Therefore, one settlement may have more districts than another, while at the same time containing fewer people.

Sources: Raber’s *Almanac*, correspondents in Amish publications, the annual migration report in *The Diary*, state and regional settlement directories, and informants in various settlements.

² Population figures (adults and children) are estimates calculated using state-sensitive averages of the estimated number of people per church district. The number of adults and children per district varies by region, community, affiliation, and age of the district. Thus the actual number of people in a specific district or state may be higher or lower than the estimates in these tables. The profile includes all Amish groups (Old Order and New Order) that use horse-and-buggy transportation, but excludes car-driving groups such as the Beachy Amish and Amish Mennonites.

Figure 2-1 Estimate of Amish-Owned Lands in Mifflin County



Source: Mifflin County GIS Department, 2012

Mifflin County has the second largest Amish settlement in Pennsylvania – more than 2,700 adults and children in 23 church districts – living predominantly in the townships that comprise the Big Valley.

fully participate in U.S. Census Bureau surveys, the settlement represented 5.9 percent of the County’s total population. The estimated pattern of the Amish settlement in Mifflin County is shown in Figure 2-1. Population estimates for other Plain Sect groups are not available.

From 2009 to 2011, Pennsylvania’s Amish population growth was estimated at 4,140 or 7 percent, and included a net migration loss of 315 persons. Sizeable nuclear families (five or more children on average) and a high retention rate (typically 85 percent or more of Amish children join the church as young adults) were driving forces to growth.³

Because of common values, Anabaptists sometimes cooperate in activities such as historical projects or service activities through the Mennonite Central Committee (an international relief and service agency) or

³ “Amish Population Trends 2009-2011.” Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College. http://www2.etown.edu/amishstudies/Population_Trends_2009_2011.asp, accessed March 14, 2012.

Mennonite Disaster Service (an agency that helps outsiders recover from natural disasters. Old Order Mennonites sometimes cooperate with the Amish on schools and publications. In Mifflin County, Amish and Mennonites founded the Mifflin County Mennonite Historical Society in 1985 and have operated a Heritage Center in Belleville since 1988. In 1991, the Society published *The Mifflin County Amish and Mennonite Story, 1791-1991*, by S. Duane Kauffman. This 472-page comprehensive history went into a second printing in the year 2000.⁴

THE PLAIN SECT IN THE BROADER COMMUNITY

While the Amish and Mennonite communities shy away from public affairs, they do use the services of public and quasi-public agencies. As these agencies evaluate and plan for the future, they should consider the Amish and Mennonite population and make efforts to accommodate and meet their needs, where possible.

David Filson, retired Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator for Penn State Cooperative Extension and state extension program leader Rural Health and Safety, provided the following perspective on the interaction of the plain sect communities with the Mifflin County area.

Amish and Mennonite people use multiple aspects of the public transportation system. They travel the roads in their horse drawn buggies, hired cabs, or their own vehicles—depending on the practices of the order—to reach one another’s farms, gatherings, and other destinations such as stores and hospitals. The buggies travel at slower speeds than motorized vehicles, sometime congesting routes traveled by motorized vehicles. More frequent passing zones or passing lanes can reduce this congestion. Road and bridge closures impact the routes they prefer to travel, possibly increasing their use of more heavily traveled or otherwise less safe roadways. They also use public transportation, including bus and passenger rail, to travel long distances. Reductions in bus and rail service reduce their opportunities to visit family and friends in settlements outside of the Mifflin County area.

Though not involved in public politics, the Plain Sect use public roads, train service, and hospitals, and comply with building and agricultural regulations.

⁴ The Mifflin County Mennonite Historical Society, <http://mifflincomhs.mennonite.net/>, accessed March 16, 2012

Amish and Mennonite use hospitals for severe and emergency medical care and are sensitive to the increasing cost of health care. They are uninsured, self-pay customers, who appreciate the reduced rates some hospitals accept for uninsured patient services.

Finally, the members of the plain sect are affected by building and agricultural regulations. Electrical and plumbing standards of building codes can be excessive for these communities that have used their own building practices for generations and don't rely on these modern utilities. Likewise, their agricultural practices are long-standing; they welcome voluntary practices that achieve conservation goals more than state mandates and requirements.

Mifflin County residents are older and aging faster than residents of the state and surrounding counties.

GENERAL AGE STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

While Mifflin County's total population has been relatively stable, its population age structure has aged significantly. According to the 2010 Census, the County's median age rose from 35.7 years in 1990 to 42.5 years in 2010 – an increase of 6.8 years (Table 2-4). Its median age was higher and rose faster than Pennsylvania's 5.1 year increase from 35.0 years to 40.1 years.

This aging trend is evident in the changing distribution of the population among age groups, particularly persons under 18 years and persons 65

Table 2-4 Age Structure, 1990-2010

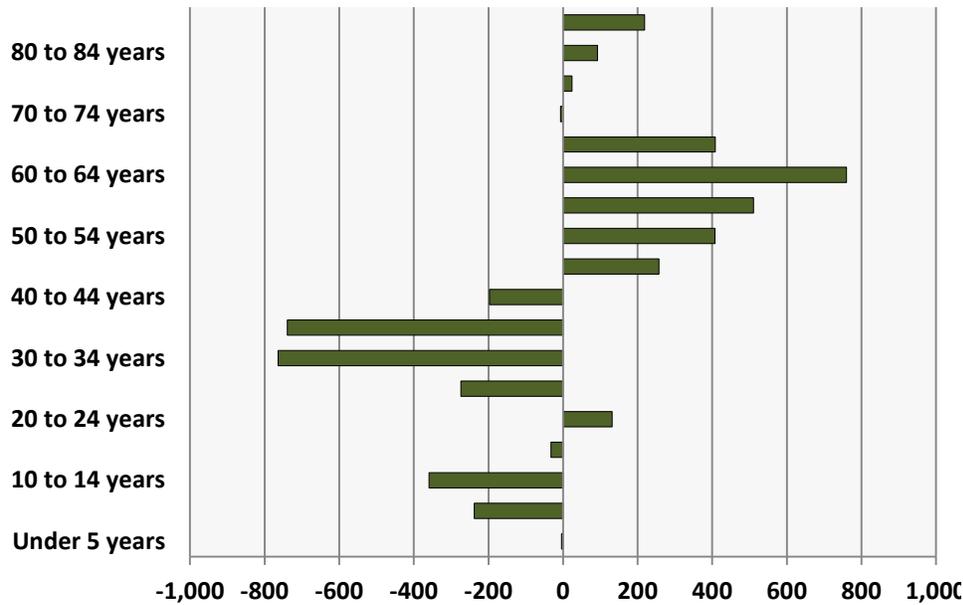
Category	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total population							
1990	11,881,643	46,197	123,786	44,164	20,625	36,680	36,176
2000	12,281,054	46,486	135,758	45,586	22,821	37,546	41,624
2010	12,702,379	46,682	153,990	45,913	24,636	39,702	44,947
Youth Population (under 18)							
As a percent of total, 1990	23.5%	24.9%	18.3%	23.5%	25.8%	25.4%	22.9%
As a percent of total, 2000	23.8%	24.5%	15.9%	21.7%	25.0%	24.0%	20.1%
As a percent of total, 2010	22.0%	23.1%	15.9%	20.1%	24.0%	22.4%	16.2%
Senior Population (65 years and over)							
As a percent of total, 1990	15.4%	16.0%	9.0%	13.5%	14.5%	12.6%	12.6%
As a percent of total, 2000	15.6%	17.0%	10.4%	14.8%	15.2%	14.0%	13.4%
As a percent of total, 2010	15.4%	19.0%	11.3%	46.2%	16.8%	15.5%	14.8%
Median Age							
1990	35.0	35.7	26.8	34.3	34.6	32.6	32.5
2000	38.0	38.8	28.7	37.7	37.7	36.7	35.8
2010	40.1	42.5	28.7	41.2	40.9	39.2	38.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, and 2010 Census.

years and over. The percentage of persons under 18 years of age dropped from 24.9 percent to 23.1 percent and the percentage of persons 65 and over rose from 16.0 percent to 19.0 from 1990 to 2010 (Table 2-4). The trend was similar for Pennsylvania’s youth, where the percentage of persons under 18 years of age dropped 1.5 percent to 22.0 percent, however the percentage of persons 65 years remained relatively stable. Youth and senior population percentages differ slightly between the 2010 decennial census (Table 2-4) in which each resident is counted and the sampling methodology of the American Community Survey (Table 2-5).

Looking more closely at the age distribution, one can see that all but one age group under 45 years declined from 2000 to 2010 and all but one age group over 45 years increased during that period (Figure 2-2). Thus, Mifflin County’s older population is its leading source of growth.

Figure 2-2 Change in Age Distribution, Mifflin County: 2000 to 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Census

MUNICIPALITIES

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that Menno Township had the youngest municipal population in Mifflin County in 2010 at 25.6 years – 16.1 years younger than the County’s median age (Table 2-5). In fact, nearly 40 percent of all Township residents were under the age of 18, while only 10.2 percent were 65 years or over. One explanation for the abundance of youth is the presence of large Amish families. Union Township also has many Amish families, but also has the highest percentage of residents over the age of 75 (15.5 percent).

Table 2-5 Estimated Age Cohorts (as a Percent of Total Population) by Municipality, 2010

Geography	Total Population	0-5 Yrs	5-14 Yrs	15-24 Yrs	25-44 Yrs	45-64 Yrs	65-74 Yrs	75 Yrs and over	Median Age	Under 18 years	65 years and over
Pennsylvania	12,612,705	5.8	12.4	14.0	25.2	27.4	7.5	7.8	39.8	22.4	15.3
Mifflin County	46,583	6.5	13.0	11.5	23.6	27.3	9.2	8.7	41.7	23.6	18.0
Armagh township	3,863	6.8	12.6	12.3	22.9	28.1	10.1	7.2	41.8	24.3	17.3
Bratton township	1,317	5.8	13.7	10.4	21.5	31.6	9.8	7.2	44.1	23.1	17
Brown township	4,053	6.6	13.6	11.7	22.0	28.5	9.3	8.2	42.1	24.0	17.5
Burnham borough	2,054	5.5	12.4	12.6	27.0	26.8	8.8	7.0	40.4	22.1	15.8
Decatur township	3,137	5.4	13.2	11.2	25.1	29.1	10.1	5.9	42.2	22.9	16
Derry township	7,339	4.3	11.5	10.0	21.5	29.3	11.4	12.0	46.9	19.9	23.4
Granville township	5,104	4.3	10.1	10.6	22.2	32.8	11.6	8.3	46.9	17.5	19.9
Juniata Terrace borough	542	8.5	12.9	12.2	30.1	23.6	7.2	5.6	35.0	24.0	12.7
Kistler borough	320	5.9	14.4	13.2	26.0	24.1	9.1	7.5	38.9	25.6	16.6
Lewistown borough	8,338	7.3	12.3	12.3	25.3	26.6	8.1	8.0	39.6	23.3	16.2
McVeytown borough	342	3.5	11.7	7.6	23.2	28.9	8.7	16.3	48.0	17.3	25.1
Menno township	1,883	12.8	21.6	14.9	22.3	18.4	6.2	4.0	25.6	39.7	10.2
Newton Hamilton borough	205	4.4	17.0	9.3	23.4	28.9	9.8	7.4	41.8	25.9	17.1
Oliver township	2,175	6.6	13.3	9.2	24.2	29.3	8.9	8.5	42.7	23.5	17.4
Union township	3,460	8.4	14.8	11.2	19.0	22.1	9.0	15.5	41.5	27.4	24.5
Wayne township	2,550	5.1	12.5	10.8	22.7	30.3	10.6	8.1	44.4	22.4	18.5
Planning Regions											
Northwest	5,343	9.9	17.2	12.5	20.1	20.8	8.0	11.5	n/a	31.7	19.4
Northeast	7,916	6.7	13.1	12.0	22.5	28.3	9.7	7.7	n/a	24.2	17.4
Southwest	3,075	5.1	13.0	10.9	23.1	29.6	10.3	7.9	n/a	22.9	18.2
SW Central	3,834	6.1	13.3	9.4	23.2	30.0	9.2	8.7	n/a	22.8	17.9
S Central	23,377	5.6	11.6	11.2	23.7	28.8	9.9	9.2	n/a	20.9	19.1
Southeast	3,137	5.4	13.2	11.2	25.1	29.0	10.1	6.0	n/a	22.9	16.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. **Southwest:** Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. **Southwest Central:** McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. **Southeast:** Decatur Township. **Northwest:** Menno and Union Townships. **Northeast:** Brown and Armagh Townships.

Juniata Terrace Borough was estimated to have had the second youngest municipal population with a median age of 35.0. This is notable since the Borough had the oldest municipal median age, 42.6 years, in 1990. In fact, the percentage of residents under 18 years rose from 17.8 percent in 1990 to 24.0 percent in 2010. At the same time, the percentage of resident 65 years and over fell from almost 26 percent to 12.7 percent. This shift along with the population increase indicates that younger families with children replaced older residents without children over the past 20 years. Housing here is relatively more affordable than in other local communities.

McVeytown Borough had the oldest municipal median age in 2010 at 48.0 years and the highest percentage of residents age 65 and over at 25.1 percent. In fact, most of these seniors were age 75 and over. Derry Township had the largest number of residents age 65 and over, 1,718 persons. Lewistown Borough had the second largest number of seniors, 1,347 persons, despite a loss of more than 600 senior residents since 1990.

Younger populations are found in Menno and Union Townships, and in Juniata Terrace.

Older communities include McVeytown, Lewistown, and Derry Township.

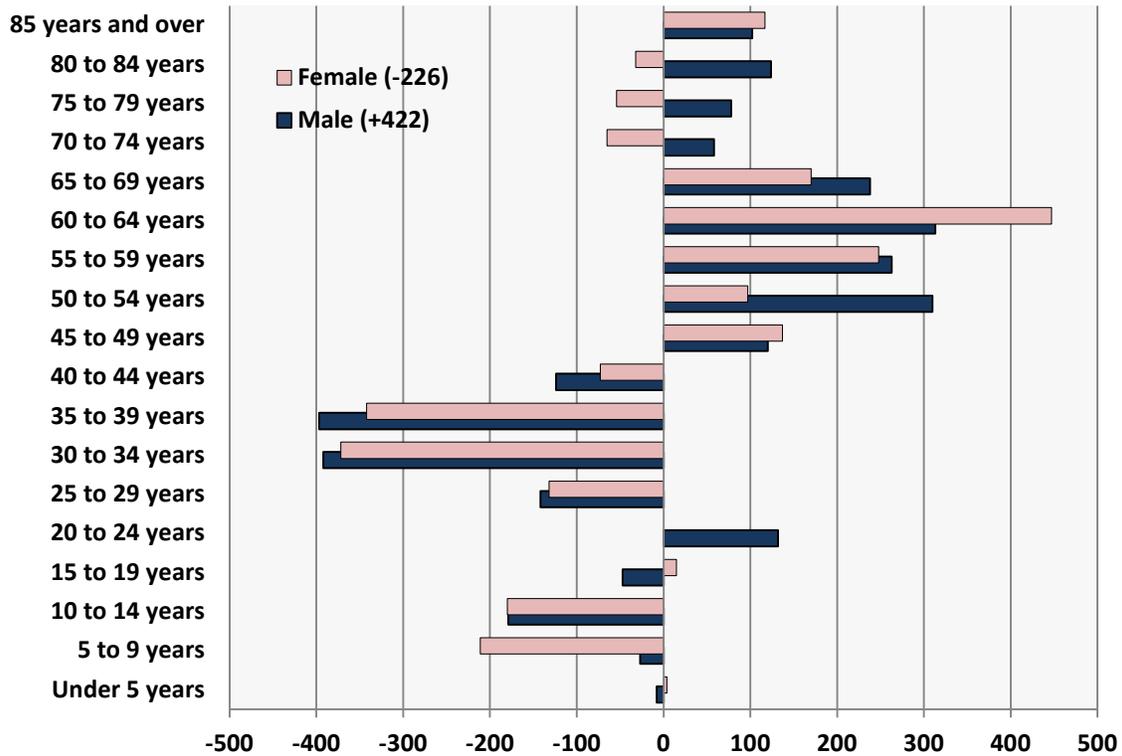
GENDER DISTRIBUTION

Females tend to live longer than males in our society, thus a community tends to have more females than males. The older the population, the more likely the gender distribution will favor females. In smaller geographies, institutions such as prisons, universities, etc. can significantly influence gender statistics and other demographics.

Females outnumbered males in Mifflin County in 2010 by 998 or 51.1 percent to 48.9 percent – a ratio comparable to the state. In most surrounding counties, however, other factors increased male prominence. Centre County had a 48.2 to 51.8 female to male ratio, in part, because slightly more males than females were enrolled at the University Park campus. State and federal correctional facilities drove male prominence in Huntingdon and Union Counties.

While females outnumbered males, the number of males increased by 422 from 2000 to 2010, while the number of females decreased by 226 as shown in Figure 2-3. Generally, both genders declined for age groups under 45 years and increased for age groups 45 years and over.

Figure 2-3 Change in Age Distribution, Mifflin County: 2000 to 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Census

RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN, 1990 TO 2010

The vast majority of Mifflin County’s population descended from European immigrants. The County has relatively few African-Americans, American Indians, Asians or residents of other races (670 in total, or 1.4 percent of the total population) (Table 2-6). Its predominance of white residents was the highest of counties in the region. Residents claiming two or more races are fewer (481, or 0.9 percent of the total population). Just over one percent of County residents are Hispanic or Latino, the lowest figure in the region.

Residents of minority race or Hispanic ethnicity tend to live in Lewistown or Derry Township.

Racial and ethnicity diversity are low in comparison to the state but similar to Juniata and Snyder Counties. The Penn State University in Centre County and the State and Federal Correctional Facilities in Huntingdon and Union Counties influence racial and ethnic diversity in these counties.

Table 2-6 Race and Ethnicity, 2010

Category	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total population	12,702,379	46,682	153,990	45,913	24,636	39,702	44,947
Race							
One Race	12,464,544	46,201	151,630	45,489	24,394	39,375	44,235
White	10,406,288	45,531	137,625	42,470	23,845	38,476	39,414
Black or African American	1,377,689	300	4,638	2,392	151	428	3,324
American Indian and Alaska Native	26,843	52	191	41	31	53	159
Asian	349,088	168	7,986	184	85	214	522
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3,653	7	1,726	2	3	6	24
Some Other Race	300,983	143	1,142	400	279	198	792
Two or More Races	237,835	481	2,360	424	242	327	712
White; American Indian and Alaska Native	27,502	102	357	115	70	107	114
White; Asian	36,127	96	848	61	32	45	109
White; Black or African American	87,287	195	614	194	61	106	190
White; Some Other Race	27,627	43	121	18	43	38	104
Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity							
Hispanic or Latino	719,660	534	3,690	727	623	657	2,346
Not Hispanic or Latino	11,982,719	46,148	150,300	45,186	24,013	39,045	42,601

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Table 2-7 Race and Ethnicity by Municipality

Geography	Total Population	One Race										Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
		White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Hispanic or Latino					
Mifflin County	46,583	97.5	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	1.0	1.1				
Armagh township	3,863	98.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2				
Bratton township	1,317	98.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.5				
Brown township	4,053	98.7	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.4				
Burnham borough	2,054	98.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.8	1.5				
Decatur township	3,137	97.8	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.1	0.5				
Derry township	7,339	97.6	0.6	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.7				
Granville township	5,104	97.6	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.7				
Juniata Terrace borough	542	98.0	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.5				
Kistler borough	320	94.1	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.8	4.1				
Lewistown borough	8,338	95.2	1.5	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.9	1.8	3.1				
McVeytown borough	342	97.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.8				
Menno township	1,883	98.7	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.2				
Newton Hamilton borough	205	97.1	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.4				
Oliver township	2,175	98.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.7				
Union township	3,460	97.8	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	1.0	1.3				
Wayne township	2,550	98.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.7				
Planning Regions													
Northwest	5,343	99.1	98.1	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.9				
Northeast	7,916	99.4	98.7	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.6				
Southwest	3,075	99.0	98.0	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.0				
SW Central	3,834	98.9	98.3	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	1.1				
S Central	23,377	98.8	96.8	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.5	1.2				
Southeast	3,137	98.9	97.8	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.1				

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. **Southwest:** Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. **Southwest Central:** McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. **Southeast:** Decatur Township. **Northwest:** Menno and Union Townships. **Northeast:** Brown and Armagh Townships.

MUNICIPALITIES

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Lewistown Borough had the largest number of residents of a minority race or multiple races in 2010, totaling 402 of its 8,338 residents (Table 2-7). The borough had the largest number of residents in each race except for Asian residents, which are clustered in Derry Township. Lewistown also had the largest number of residents reporting Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 256 persons or 3.1 percent.

By percentages, Kistler Borough was the most racially diverse municipality in Mifflin County with 5.9 percent of its 320 residents reporting their race as other than white alone. Armagh, Brown and Menno Townships had the lowest diversity figures; each had 98.7 percent of residents reporting their race as white and less than 0.5 percent reporting their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Disabilities include a wide range of sensory, cognitive, and mobility challenges. Persons with disabilities may require special services or assistance within the community. The U.S. Census Bureau's estimate of Mifflin County's 2010 civilian noninstitutionalized population with one or more disabilities was 8,036 persons, or 17.4 percent of the total population (Table 2-8), which represents a decline in persons with disabilities since 2000. Ambulatory (walking) difficulties were most common (estimated for more than one in two persons with disabilities), followed by cognitive (for almost one in four) and independently living difficulties (for more than one in three). The disability affecting the fewest County residents was vision difficulty, but even this disability affects roughly one in eight residents.

More than 1 in 8 residents report some type of disability.

The County's percentage of persons with a disability (17.4 percent) was higher than the state (13.2 percent), but comparisons by disability type varied widely. Percentages of persons with cognitive and ambulatory disabilities were slightly higher than the state, while persons with vision and self-care disabilities were more than 2 percent lower than the state.

Huntingdon and Mifflin Counties shared the highest percentage of residents with a disability (17.4 percent), while percentages of residents with a disability in Juniata, Snyder and Union Counties were much closer to the state average of 13.2 percent; Centre County's percentage was much lower (8.8 percent). All of the counties had higher rates of residents with cognitive disabilities than the state, and most had lower rates of residents with ambulatory and self-care disabilities.

Table 2-8 Disability Characteristics, 2000-2010

	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population (5 years and over), 2000	11,336,483	42,964	126,297	39,485	20,860	34,528	33,838
With a disability	2,111,771	8,684	14,207	7,706	3,840	6,502	5,887
<i>Percent of total</i>	18.6	20.2	11.2	19.5	18.4	18.8	17.4
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population, 2010	12,453,995	46,112	149,924	42,095	24,506	39,438	41,536
With a disability	1,639,795	8,036	13,135	7,320	3,614	5,223	5,592
<i>Percent of total</i>	13.2	17.4	8.8	17.4	14.7	13.2	13.5
Disability Characteristics							
Hearing	459,605	2,202	4,186	2,632	1,282	1,454	1,724
<i>Percent</i>	28.0	27.4	31.9	36.0	35.5	27.8	30.8
Vision	266,710	959	2,247	1,721	566	913	891
<i>Percent</i>	16.3	11.9	17.1	23.5	15.7	17.5	15.9
Cognitive (5 yrs and over)	614,499	3,156	5,083	3,072	1,453	2,158	2,531
<i>Percent</i>	37.5	39.3	38.7	42.0	40.2	41.3	45.3
Ambulatory (5 yrs and over)	841,854	4,181	5,795	2,586	1,747	1,524	2,400
<i>Percent</i>	51.3	52.0	44.1	35.3	48.3	29.2	42.9
Self-care (5 yrs and over)	299,123	1276	1,868	1,057	549	953	1,008
<i>Percent</i>	18.2	15.9	14.2	14.4	15.2	18.2	18.0
Independent living (18 yrs and over)	583,232	2,757	4,038	2,049	1,295	1,930	1,381
<i>Percent</i>	35.6	34.3	30.7	28.0	35.8	37.0	24.7
<i>Percent Margin of Error (+/-)</i>	0.1-0.3	0.5-4.5	0.2-2.8	0.4-3.1	0.3-4.0	0.4-4.1	0.5-5.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2008-2010 American Community Survey

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

The U.S. Census Bureau defines a household as a person or a group of people living in a housing unit. It defines a family, or a family household, as a group of related persons living in a housing unit. Persons in group quarters such as prisons, college dorms, group homes, and nursing homes are not counted in households, and single person households are not family households.

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS

In 2010, there were 18,743 households living in Mifflin County. A total of 559 persons (1.2 percent of the total population) lived in group quarters – mostly nursing homes and prisons (Table 2-9).

Mifflin County’s small population gain (a 0.4 percent growth rate) was accompanied by a larger increase in households (1.8 percent) from 2000 to 2010 (Table 2-9). This correlates with the decrease in average household size from 2.49 to 2.46 persons per household over the same period. This condition of household growth outpacing population growth was also experienced by the state and surrounding counties. Larger average household sizes in Juniata and Snyder Counties reflect their younger populations.

FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS

There were 12,729 family households in Mifflin County in 2010 – 70.1 percent of all households (Table 2-10). This figure reflected a decline in the number (-176) and percentage (-1.1 percent) of family households since 2000. This decrease was due primarily to an increase in single person (nonfamily) households from 26.0 percent in 2000 to 27.1 percent in 2010.

MUNICIPALITIES

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that Menno Township had the largest average household size (3.64 persons), the largest percentage of family households (84.7 percent), and the largest average family size (4.07) in 2010 (Table 2-11), again reflecting the presence of the Amish community. Most municipalities outside of the Greater Lewistown area, except McVeytown and Newtown-Hamilton Boroughs, also had average household sizes larger than the County’s 2.42. Municipalities in the Northeast and Northwest regions and Bratton Township had larger average family sizes than the County.

Households are smaller and less likely to meet the definition of “family household” than in the past, following state and national trends.

Households and families tend to be larger in the Big Valley than in the Juniata River Valley.

Table 2-9 Households, 1990-2010

Category	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Households							
1990	4,495,966	17,697	42,683	15,527	7,598	12,764	11,689
2000	4,777,003	18,413	49,323	16,759	8,584	13,654	13,178
2010	5,018,904	18,743	57,573	17,280	9,476	14,750	14,765
Households Change							
1990-2000	281,037	716	6,640	1,232	986	890	1,489
2000-2010	241,901	330	8,250	521	892	1,096	1,587
1990-2010	522,938	1,046	14,890	1,753	1,878	1,986	3,076
Percent Households Change							
1990-2000	6.25%	4.05%	15.56%	7.93%	12.98%	6.97%	12.74%
2000-2010	5.06%	1.79%	16.73%	3.11%	10.39%	8.03%	12.04%
1990-2010	11.63%	5.91%	34.89%	11.29%	24.72%	15.56%	26.32%
Average Household Size							
1990	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6
2000	2.48	2.49	2.45	2.44	2.60	2.58	2.50
2010	2.45	2.46	2.38	2.39	2.57	2.53	2.43

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, and 2010 Census

Table 2-10 Families, 1990-2010

Category	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Families							
1990	3,155,989	12,842	26,359	11,297	5,804	9,697	8,637
2000	3,208,388	12,905	28,501	11,798	6,467	9,979	9,205
2010	3,261,307	12,729	31,256	11,684	6,839	10,363	9,846
Families Change							
1990-2000	52,399	63	2,142	501	663	282	568
2000-2010	52,919	-176	2,755	-114	372	384	641
1990-2010	105,318	-113	4,897	387	1,035	666	1,209
Families as a Percent of Total Households							
1990	70.20%	72.57%	61.76%	72.76%	76.39%	75.97%	73.89%
2000	67.16%	70.09%	57.78%	70.40%	75.34%	73.08%	69.85%
2010	64.98%	67.91%	54.29%	67.62%	72.17%	70.26%	66.68%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, and 2010 Census.

Table 2-11 Households and Families by Municipality

Geography	Total Households	Average Household Size	Family Households	As Percent of Total Households	Average Family Size
Pennsylvania	4,940,581	2.47	3,231,021	65.4	3.06
Mifflin County	19,051	2.42	12,678	66.5	3.00
Armagh township	1,535	2.52	1,043	67.9	3.07
Bratton township	512	2.57	381	74.4	3.01
Brown township	1,574	2.57	1,116	70.9	3.09
Burnham borough	866	2.37	577	66.6	2.86
Decatur township	1,171	2.68	920	78.6	2.98
Derry township	3,005	2.36	2,058	68.5	2.81
Granville township	2,119	2.39	1,502	70.9	2.77
Juniata Terrace borough	238	2.28	152	63.9	2.77
Kistler borough	127	2.52	91	71.7	2.87
Lewistown borough	3,742	2.21	2,030	54.2	2.93
McVeytown borough	153	2.24	93	60.8	2.87
Menno township	517	3.64	438	84.7	4.07
Newton Hamilton borough	85	2.41	59	69.4	2.86
Oliver township	853	2.55	625	73.3	2.98
Union township	1,248	2.66	892	71.5	3.26
Wayne township	998	2.52	752	75.4	2.87

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Lewistown Borough had the smallest average household size (2.21), followed closely by McVeytown Borough (2.24) and Juniata Terrace Borough (2.28). Lewistown also had the smallest percentage of family households (54.2 percent) – in others words, the highest concentration of non-family households. Families that do live in Lewistown average 2.93 persons, while Juniata Terrace Borough and Granville Township had the smallest average family sizes, 2.77.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Just as the demographic and social characteristics of residents influence community needs and opportunities, so do their acquired attributes, such as education, occupation, etc. Concerns such as poverty and low educational attainment may lead to changes in the services provided by governments and, therefore, are potentially important to the Plan. This section explores these socio-economic characteristics of Mifflin County’s residents.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

According to U.S. Census Bureau estimates, educational attainment varied widely across the region and the state in 2010. Of persons age 25 and over in Pennsylvania, 87.4 percent had attained a high school diploma (and possibly further educational levels); the remaining 12.6 percent did not attain a high school diploma (Table 2-12). In Mifflin County, this percentage of high school graduation or equivalency was somewhat lower, 80.8 percent (and thus 19.2% w/o a diploma or equivalent) – the second lowest in the region. Percentages in surrounding counties ranged from 80.1 percent in Juniata County to 92.6 percent in Centre County.

Table 2-12 Educational Attainment, 2010 (Percent of Population 25 Years and Over)

Educational Attainment	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total population	12,702,379	46,682	153,990	45,913	24,636	39,702	44,947
Less than 9th grade	4.0%	7.1%	2.3%	4.2%	7.3%	8.1%	6.2%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	8.6%	12.1%	5.1%	10.3%	12.6%	10.2%	10.6%
High school graduate or equivalency	37.8%	52.8%	32.7%	52.1%	51.3%	47.1%	40.1%
Some college, no degree	15.9%	11.1%	13.0%	13.3%	11.0%	11.7%	15.6%
Associate degree	7.3%	5.8%	6.9%	6.3%	7.0%	7.6%	5.2%
Bachelor's degree	16.3%	7.1%	20.9%	8.9%	7.2%	10.0%	13.0%
Graduate or professional degree	10.1%	3.9%	19.2%	4.9%	3.6%	5.3%	9.2%
Percent with at least high school diploma or equivalent	87.4%	80.8%	92.6%	85.5%	80.1%	81.6%	83.1%
Percent with at least a bachelor's degree	26.4%	11.1%	40.0%	13.8%	10.8%	15.3%	22.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

There was even greater variation in college attainment. The state average was 26.4 percent. In Centre County, 40.0 percent of persons over 25 have a college degree, while the figure was only 10.8 percent in Juniata County. In Mifflin County, the figure was 11.1 percent – again the second lowest rate.

RECENT GRADUATION RATES AND POST-SECONDARY PURSUITS

Historically graduation rates in Pennsylvania measured how many students registered in the 12th grade class met the graduation requirement by the end of the school year, regardless of what year they entered 9th grade. Effective with the 2009-10 school year, the department and schools are now required by the U.S Department of Education to use the 4-year cohort formula, which reports successful completion of graduation requirements within four years and typically results in a lower graduation rate (percentage).⁵ The two rates should not be compared, since they reflect different measures.

In addition, prior to the 2011-12 school year, Mifflin County had two high schools, and they had two graduation rates. As a result of the consolidated high school, a single graduation rate for the Mifflin County High School is now reported. The 2011-12 graduation rate (4-year cohort formula) for Mifflin County High School was 85.5 percent. The 2012-13 graduation rate (4-year cohort formula) was 84.3 percent.

Post-secondary education goals among County high school graduates are rising but still well below the state average.

Of the 382 graduates in 2012, 57.1% were bound for post-secondary education. Most (44% of all graduates) were college bound; others were headed for non-degree or specialized associates degree granting institutions. This total figure was significantly lower than the state average of 73.9%. In 2013, the Mifflin County percentage rose to 66.5%; the 2013 statewide average was not available as of April 17, 2014.

⁵ The leaver formula reflects the percentage of students graduating in a given year. The 4-year cohort formula reflects the percentage of students graduating within four years based on their year of entry into the ninth grade. While the 4-year cohort formula typically results in a lower percentage since some students will take more than four years to graduate, it is important to note that the formulas are not comparable.

LABOR FORCE

According to U.S. Census Bureau estimates (Table 2-13), 63.2 percent of Pennsylvania residents over 16 years of age were in the labor force – either employed or actively seeking employment. In Mifflin County, the percentage was less, 57.6 percent. Labor force participation rates were lower than the state in Huntingdon and Union Counties and higher in Juniata and Snyder Counties.

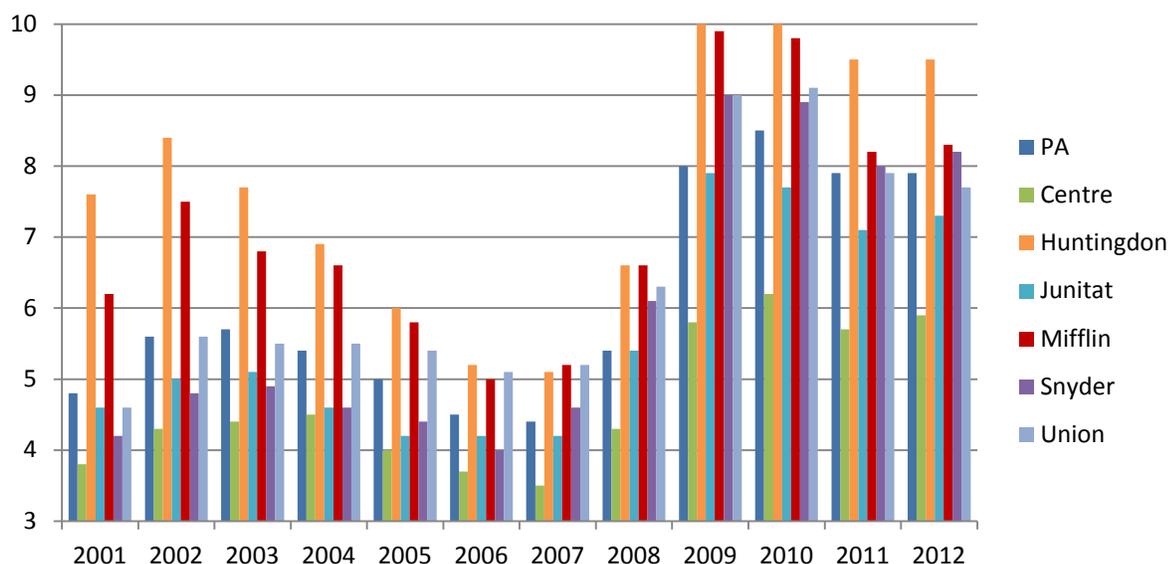
Data from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry show slightly different figures but a similar comparative trend between the county and the state rates (Figure 2-4). The department reported annual unemployment rates of 8.3 percent for Mifflin County and 7.9 percent for Pennsylvania in 2012. Mifflin County rates have consistently been higher than the state rates since 2001. Only Huntingdon County has had higher

Table 2-13 Employment Status

Employment Status	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total population	12,702,379	46,682	153,990	45,913	24,636	39,702	44,947
Population 16 years and over	10,147,657	36,732	129,871	37,741	19,156	31,595	37,552
In Labor Force	63.2%	57.6%	59.1%	53.9%	63.5%	64.1%	51.3%
Civilian labor force	63.2%	57.6%	59.0%	53.9%	63.4%	64.1%	51.3%
Employed	58.5%	52.7%	55.4%	50.3%	59.3%	60.1%	48.2%
Armed Forces	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Not in labor force	36.8%	42.4%	40.9%	46.1%	36.5%	35.9%	48.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Figure 2-4 Annual Unemployment Rates, Mifflin County and Pennsylvania, 2001-2012



Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

annual employment rates in 11 of the past 12 years. By February 2014, unemployment in Mifflin County dropped to 7.4, compared to the state’s 6.7 percent.

PLACE OF WORK

According to U.S. Census Bureau estimates, 75.7 percent of all employed residents of Mifflin County worked in the County; statewide only 70.7 percent were employed in their county of residence (Table 2-15). The 2011 Quality of Life Survey found a similar rate of 76.9 percent in-county employment. The County had a higher rate of in-county employment than any of the surrounding counties except Centre County. It also had the smallest percentage of workers who travel out-of-state for employment.

Both the Census Bureau and the County survey found that about 3 in 4 workers who live in Mifflin County also work here.

Table 2-15 Place of Work, 2006-2010 Estimate

	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Workers, 16 yrs and over	5,799,572	18,870	69,968	18,598	11,156	18,322	17,531
Place of Work							
Worked in state of residence	5,483,344	18,729	69,239	18,287	11,048	18,099	17,354
<i>Percent</i>	94.5%	99.3%	99.0%	98.3%	99.0%	98.8%	99.0%
Worked in county of residence	4,102,421	14,290	63,018	11,822	5,831	11,685	11,559
<i>Percent</i>	70.7%	75.7%	90.1%	63.6%	52.3%	63.8%	65.9%
Worked outside county of residence	1,380,923	4,439	6,221	6,465	5,217	6,414	5,795
<i>Percent</i>	23.8%	23.5%	8.9%	34.8%	46.8%	35.0%	33.1%
<i>Percent Margin of Error (+/-)</i>	0.2-0.6	2.8-8.3	1.9-6.7	2.2-4.5	2.9-5.7	2.7-5.6	3.5-7.8
Worked outside state of residence	316,228	141	729	311	108	223	177
<i>Percent</i>	5.5%	0.7%	1.0%	1.7%	1.0%	1.2%	1.0%
<i>Percent Margin of Error (+/-)</i>	1.1	61.0	21.9	29.6	54.6	45.7	45.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT

Most counties in the region have a far higher percentage of their residents employed in agriculture (and other natural resource management industries) than the state according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates (Table 2-16). In Mifflin County, 3.8 percent of residents are employed in agriculture and related industries; across the state, only 1.3 percent of residents are employed in these industries. Mifflin County also had a

much higher percentage of its residents employed in manufacturing than the state. In 2010, only 13.0 percent of all Pennsylvania employment was in this sector, while 24.5 percent of Mifflin County's workforce was employed in manufacturing. Employment rates in other industries were similar to the state with the exception of finance, insurance, real estate, and professional, scientific, and management services, which trailed state rates.

MUNICIPALITIES

Employment percentages in agriculture (and other natural resource management industries) and manufacturing industries equaled or exceeded the state in all municipalities with one exception, 0.0 percent employment in agriculture and related fields in Burnham Borough (Table 2-16).

Manufacturing employs the most resident workers in the County, followed by education, health care and social services, and retail trade.

Both manufacturing and agriculture and natural resource industries have stronger employment in the County than the state.

Agriculture and related fields employ a relatively high number of residents in Bratton, Menno, and Union Townships and Kistler Borough – as high as 20.6 percent in Menno Township. Residents employed in manufacturing were above 30.0 percent in Armagh and Decatur Townships, and Juniata Terrace, McVeytown, and Newton Hamilton Boroughs, and above 20.0 in all but two other municipalities.

Other notable resident employment rates included:

- a 23.2 percent employment rate in retail trade in Granville Township, where the Wal-Mart is located.
- employment rates in transportation, warehousing and utilities in McVeytown and Newton Hamilton Boroughs that are more than double the county and state rates.
- an 11.0 percent employment rate in finance, insurance and real estate in McVeytown – more than triple Mifflin County's 2.4 percent.
- 13.9 percent (Wayne Township) to 28.3 percent (Burnham Borough) employment in education, health care, and social services, ranking it the first or second industry of employment in every municipality in the county.
- employment rates similar or exceeding the state's 7.8 percent in arts, entertainment, recreation, and accommodation services in Burnham, Juniata Terrace, Kistler, and Lewistown Boroughs.

Table 2-16 Percent of Total Employment by Industry by Municipality

Geography	Civilian employed population 16 years and over	Agriculture, forestry, and fishing and hunting, and mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	Information	Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	Educational services, and health care and social assistance	Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	Other services, except public administration	Public administration
Pennsylvania	5,940,972	1.3%	6.2%	13.0%	3.1%	11.7%	5.3%	2.0%	6.6%	9.5%	24.8%	7.8%	4.7%	4.1%
Mifflin County	19,375	3.8%	6.2%	24.5%	2.9%	11.9%	5.2%	1.4%	3.4%	4.7%	22.9%	6.0%	4.4%	3.0%
Armagh township	1,595	2.4%	6.1%	30.9%	3.9%	4.3%	3.6%	3.3%	6.1%	6.0%	18.1%	9.8%	2.8%	2.7%
Bratton township	601	8.3%	3.8%	23.5%	5.5%	7.2%	8.5%	1.0%	5.3%	3.2%	19.6%	2.3%	7.5%	4.3%
Brown township	1,698	5.2%	4.4%	24.7%	4.1%	9.5%	8.7%	1.3%	3.9%	3.9%	22.5%	6.7%	2.6%	2.4%
Burnham borough	1,030	0.0%	5.9%	18.8%	4.7%	13.2%	6.1%	1.2%	1.7%	4.1%	28.3%	8.9%	4.5%	2.5%
Decatur township	1,361	3.9%	6.5%	32.8%	3.9%	9.7%	5.5%	1.1%	3.9%	3.5%	17.3%	3.6%	5.4%	3.0%
Derry township	3,099	1.6%	5.0%	20.5%	1.7%	12.8%	1.9%	2.0%	4.0%	2.0%	31.3%	6.4%	7.8%	2.9%
Granville township	2,378	3.0%	5.6%	22.7%	1.2%	23.2%	3.4%	0.5%	3.8%	7.6%	21.6%	3.2%	2.5%	1.8%
Juniata Terrace borough	226	2.7%	1.3%	35.4%	1.8%	16.8%	3.5%	0.0%	0.9%	2.2%	25.2%	8.4%	0.0%	1.8%
Kistler borough	134	8.2%	10.4%	20.9%	3.7%	6.0%	1.5%	0.0%	0.7%	4.5%	18.7%	11.9%	9.0%	4.5%
Lewistown borough	3,301	1.6%	4.6%	25.0%	3.7%	10.4%	5.6%	1.8%	1.7%	7.3%	25.6%	7.5%	2.2%	3.0%
McVeytown borough	145	1.4%	2.1%	33.1%	1.4%	3.4%	11.0%	0.0%	11.0%	2.8%	17.9%	2.1%	11.7%	2.1%
Menno township	621	20.6%	11.1%	14.5%	1.0%	11.0%	8.9%	1.1%	2.7%	3.7%	14.5%	5.5%	3.4%	2.1%
Newton Hamilton borough	84	2.4%	0.0%	38.1%	0.0%	8.3%	10.7%	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%	23.8%	0.0%	3.6%	9.5%
Oliver township	911	4.3%	2.4%	23.6%	4.0%	12.7%	7.9%	0.5%	3.2%	4.1%	23.4%	3.8%	5.5%	4.6%
Union township	1,192	7.7%	13.8%	21.9%	1.8%	12.1%	6.7%	0.0%	2.9%	0.5%	18.5%	5.1%	5.7%	3.3%
Wayne township	999	4.6%	13.1%	29.2%	1.1%	8.7%	4.2%	1.1%	2.3%	6.9%	13.9%	4.2%	5.7%	4.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

INCOME AND POVERTY

INCOME

Household incomes are among the lowest in the region.

According to U.S. Census Bureau estimates, household incomes in Mifflin County and surrounding counties were lower on average than the state (Table 2-17). Mifflin County had the lowest median household income in the region at \$46,107, and Centre County, the highest at \$63,056. The state median was \$67,282.

Since 1989, Pennsylvania and all surveyed jurisdictions have experienced real growth in median household income. Mifflin County experienced the smallest real increase (15 percent). Pennsylvania and Centre County experienced increases of more than 30 percent and other surrounding counties had rates of 21 to 28 percent.

Estimates of 2010 household income in Mifflin County show that more than one in five households earns between \$50,000 and \$74,999 per year, with the majority of households earning between \$35,000 and \$99,999 per year. As shown in Table 2-17, the County had relatively more households earning less than \$75,000 and relatively fewer households earning \$75,000 and above compared to surrounding counties and the state.

Table 2-17 Household Income

Income	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Households	4,940,581	9,037	54,971	16,876	9,037	14,258	14,963
Household income in the past 12 months (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars)							
Less than \$10,000	7.30%	5.40%	10.10%	7.80%	5.40%	6.00%	6.40%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	5.90%	6.50%	5.40%	7.20%	6.50%	5.40%	6.40%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	11.30%	12.10%	11.60%	13.60%	12.10%	12.20%	11.70%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	10.90%	15.00%	10.80%	13.10%	15.00%	15.10%	13.30%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	14.30%	17.10%	14.70%	17.20%	17.10%	17.70%	17.90%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19.00%	21.40%	18.30%	20.60%	21.40%	19.80%	19.70%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	12.40%	12.10%	11.70%	11.20%	12.10%	11.50%	9.80%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	11.70%	8.00%	11.40%	6.40%	8.00%	9.00%	8.40%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	3.80%	1.80%	2.80%	1.80%	1.80%	2.00%	3.30%
\$200,000 or more	3.50%	0.60%	3.20%	1.20%	0.60%	1.50%	3.20%
Median income							
1989 in 2010 dollars	\$51,161	\$40,089	\$45,866	\$40,598	\$44,632	\$45,521	\$48,615
1999 in 2010 dollars	\$52,539	\$42,149	\$47,376	\$43,640	\$45,454	\$47,135	\$52,840
2010	\$67,282	\$46,107	\$63,056	\$51,846	\$53,805	\$56,421	\$60,805

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Figure 2-5 Median Household Income, 1989, 1999, and 2010 (estimate)

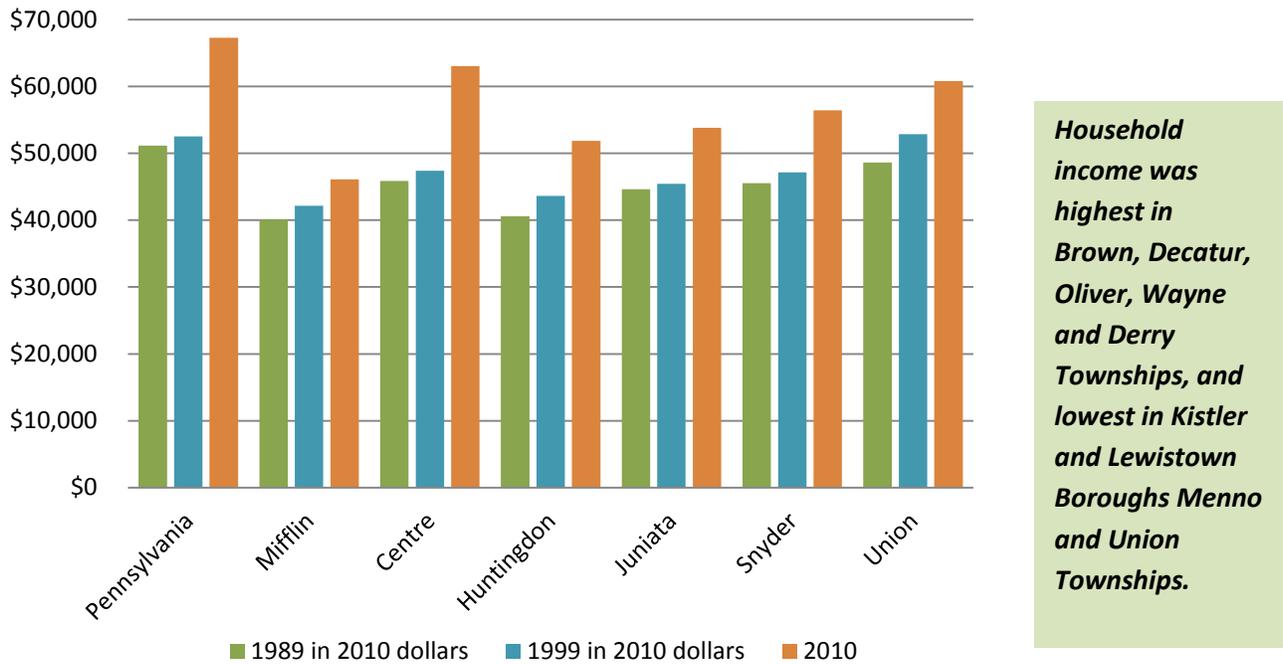


Table 2-18 Poverty Status

	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Poverty Status							
1989	11.10%	13.40%	1.20%	13.40%	9.80%	11.00%	10.30%
1999	11.10%	12.50%	18.80%	11.10%	9.50%	9.90%	8.80%
Past 12 months), 2006-2010	1,509,858	6,390	24,497	4,641	2,007	4,342	4,445
Percent	12.40%	13.90%	18.50%	11.40%	8.30%	11.70%	12.60%
Percent Margin of Error (+/-)	0.1	1.5	0.9	1.1	1.3	2.2	2.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2006-2010 American Community Survey

POVERTY

As a result of low income, Mifflin County has a relatively high poverty rate (Table 2-18). Estimates of 2010 poverty rates for Pennsylvania and Mifflin were 12.4 percent and 13.9 percent, respectively. In the region, only Centre County was higher (18.5 percent) as a result of its large student population.

While poverty rates had generally fallen from 1989 to 1999, rates for most surveyed jurisdictions increased over the past decade. Increases were nominal (less than 2 percent) except in Union County (+3.8 percent).

MUNICIPALITIES

Median (average) household and median family incomes are below the state average in every municipality (Table 2-19). Brown Township had the highest income in both categories. Decatur Township and Newton Hamilton Borough had the second and third highest median household incomes. Oliver and Wayne Townships had the second and third highest median family incomes. Kistler and Lewistown Boroughs and Union Township had the three lowest median household and median family incomes.

Estimates from the U.S Census Bureau indicate that there were residents in every municipality in Mifflin County that were living below poverty in 2010. The highest rates of poverty were in Kistler Borough, Lewistown Borough and Menno Township.

Table 2-19 Income and Poverty, 2010

Geography	Median Household Income	Median Family Income	Persons below Poverty (past 12 months)	Percent Margin of Error (+/-)
Pennsylvania	\$50,398	\$63,364	12.4%	0.1
Mifflin County	\$37,539	\$46,598	13.9%	1.5
Armagh township	\$41,169	\$48,255	13.7%	6.2
Bratton township	\$40,469	\$46,328	12.5%	7.2
Brown township	\$46,338	\$55,231	12.7%	5.6
Burnham borough	\$36,411	\$47,193	9.5%	4.1
Decatur township	\$44,241	\$47,188	9.1%	3.4
Derry township	\$39,934	\$48,504	6.9%	3.5
Granville township	\$36,800	\$45,461	5.0%	2.8
Juniata Terrace borough	\$29,491	\$35,938	5.2%	4.9
Kistler borough	\$25,341	\$25,208	40.0%	19.2
Lewistown borough	\$26,584	\$38,356	27.4%	4.4
McVeytown borough	\$38,125	\$45,000	22.7%	14.2
Menno township	\$42,500	\$47,446	26.9%	11.1
Newton Hamilton borough	\$43,889	\$46,250	12.9%	10.5
Oliver township	\$40,104	\$52,250	6.0%	3.8
Union township	\$31,700	\$43,714	15.1%	7.3
Wayne township	\$41,419	\$50,000	9.4%	4.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

PER CAPITA INCOME

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Mifflin County had the third lowest per capita income. Forest and Fayette were the only Pennsylvania Counties to have lower per capita income figures.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

The Bureau of Economic Analysis at the U.S. Department of Commerce defines per capita personal income as the net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and personal current transfer receipts received by the residents of the jurisdiction.

The Bureau’s 2010 per capita personal income figures for Pennsylvania and Mifflin were \$40,444 and \$28,824, respectively. Only Huntingdon County had a lower per capita personal income, \$27,711 (Table 2-20). Figures in other counties ranged from \$29,610 in Juniata County to \$33,602 in Centre County.

All surveyed jurisdictions experienced real growth in per capita income since 1990, though from 2000 to 2010, increases were smaller and Snyder County lost value.

Per capita personal income for counties in the region generally declined as a percentage of the state figure. Mifflin County’s rate dipped in 2000 then returned to 71.3 percent of the state figure in 2010 but remains the lowest of surrounding counties. Huntingdon County was the only percentage that increased from 1990 to 2010.

Table 2-20 Per Capita Personal Income

Per Capita Personal Income	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
1990	\$19,433	\$13,862	\$16,442	\$12,666	\$15,094	\$16,568	\$16,285
1990 in 2010 \$	\$32,453	\$23,150	\$27,458	\$21,152	\$25,207	\$27,669	\$27,196
<i>Percent of State</i>		71.3%	84.6%	65.2%	77.7%	85.3%	83.8%
2000	\$30,113	\$20,988	\$24,676	\$19,666	\$22,400	\$25,106	\$22,423
2000 in 2010 \$	\$38,244	\$26,655	\$31,339	\$24,976	\$28,448	\$31,885	\$28,477
<i>Percent of State</i>		69.7%	81.9%	65.3%	74.4%	83.4%	74.5%
2010	\$40,444	\$28,824	\$33,602	\$27,711	\$29,610	\$29,775	\$30,111
<i>Percent of State</i>		71.3%	83.1%	68.5%	73.2%	73.6%	74.5%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; Gannett Fleming (inflation calculation)

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

PENNSYLVANIA STATE DATA CENTER PROJECTIONS

Population projections by the state anticipate an increase in Mifflin County's population.

The Pennsylvania State Data Center (PASDC) prepares population projections for state planning purposes. Its methodology is strictly mathematical based on the 2010 Census, group quarter populations, natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and long term in- and out-migration patterns reported by the Internal Revenue Service and the US Census Bureau (American Community Survey). The methodology does not take into account future community and economic development or the impact of planned highway and infrastructure improvements that can stimulate residential growth.

The PASDC's most recent population projections for the state and its counties were released in March 2014. These projections suggest that the population of Mifflin County will increase slowly through 2040 (Table 2-21). PASDC projected an increase of 1,420 residents (3.0 percent) to 48,102 by 2020, an increase of 1,476 residents (3.1 percent) to 49,578 by 2030, and an increase of 1,131 residents (2.3 percent) to 50,709 by 2040. This growth is projected at about 1 percent per decade slower than growth across the entire state.

Table 2-21 State and County Population Counts, 2010, and Projections, 2020-2040

	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Population Count, 2010	12,702,379	46,682	79,886	45,913	24,636	39,702	44,947
Population Projection, 2020	13,230,170	48,102	168,182	49,200	24,681	41,438	47,499
Population Projection, 2030	13,759,594	49,578	180,148	52,306	25,013	42,156	49,931
Population Projection, 2040	14,132,588	50,709	188,564	54,399	25,094	41,678	51,641
Change, 2010-20	527,791	1,420	88,296	3,287	45	1,736	2,552
	4.2%	3.0%	110.5%	7.2%	0.2%	4.4%	5.7%
Change, 2020-30	529,424	1,476	11,966	3,106	332	718	2,432
	4.0%	3.1%	7.1%	6.3%	1.3%	1.7%	5.1%
Change, 2030-40	372,994	1,131	8,416	2,093	81	-478	1,710
	2.7%	2.3%	4.7%	4.0%	0.3%	-1.1%	3.4%
Change, 2010-40	1,430,209	4,027	108,678	8,486	458	1,976	6,694
	11.3%	8.6%	136.0%	18.5%	1.9%	5.0%	14.9%

*Projections were released in March 2014, based on the April 2010 Census.

Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center (projections); Gannett Fleming (numeric and percent projected change)

Table 2-22 State and County Population Counts, 2010, and Projections for Youth (under 15) and Seniors (65 and Over)

Category	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Youth Population (Under 15 years)							
2010 Count	2,274,324	8,911	20,189	7,602	4,906	7,347	6,787
2020 Projection	2,220,277	9,451	18,651	3,188	4,258	6,640	6,243
2030 Projection	2,311,702	10,556	15,986	7,253	4,361	6,334	6,488
2040 Projection	2,339,228	10,875	16,358	7,108	4,312	6,118	6,986
Change, 2010-20	-54,047	540	-1,538	-4,414	-648	-707	-544
	-2.4%	6.1%	-7.6%	-58.1%	-13.2%	-9.6%	-8.0%
Change, 2010-40	64,904	1,964	-3,831	-494	-594	-1,229	199
	2.9%	22.0%	-19.0%	-6.5%	-12.1%	-16.7%	2.9%
Senior Population (65 years and over)							
2010 Count	1,959,307	8,643	17,366	7,458	4,134	6,144	6,654
2020 Projection	2,535,935	9,761	23,900	9,637	5,143	7,765	8,024
2030 Projection	3,172,518	10,885	30,483	11,310	6,454	9,544	9,621
2040 Projection	3,265,555	10,853	32,363	11,663	6,873	10,044	9,861
Change, 2010-20	576,628	1,118	6,534	2,179	1,009	1,621	1,370
	29.4%	12.9%	37.6%	29.2%	24.4%	26.4%	20.6%
Change, 2010-40	1,306,248	2,210	14,997	4,205	2,739	3,900	3,207
	66.7%	25.6%	86.4%	56.4%	66.3%	63.5%	48.2%

*Projections were released in March 2014, based on the April 2010 Census.

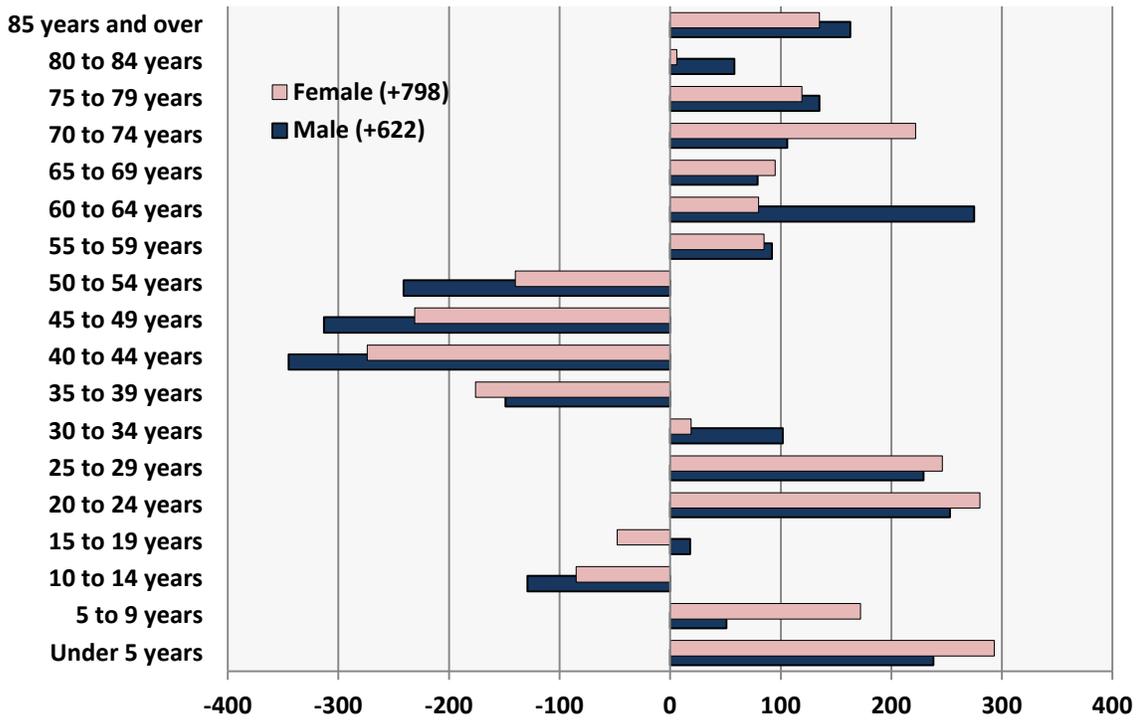
Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center (projections); Gannett Fleming (projected change)

Centre, Huntingdon and Union Counties are projected to grow faster than the state in each of the three future decades. Snyder County is projected to grow until 2030 and thereafter begin to lose population. Juniata County is projected to grow very slowly through 2040.

The PASDC projections are detailed to age and gender. Youth populations (residents under 15 years of age) are projected to decline in the 2010-2020 decade in all surveyed counties except Mifflin County, where the youth population growth rate is projected to be twice that of the general population. This trend is projected to change to growth in Union County and across PA by 2030.

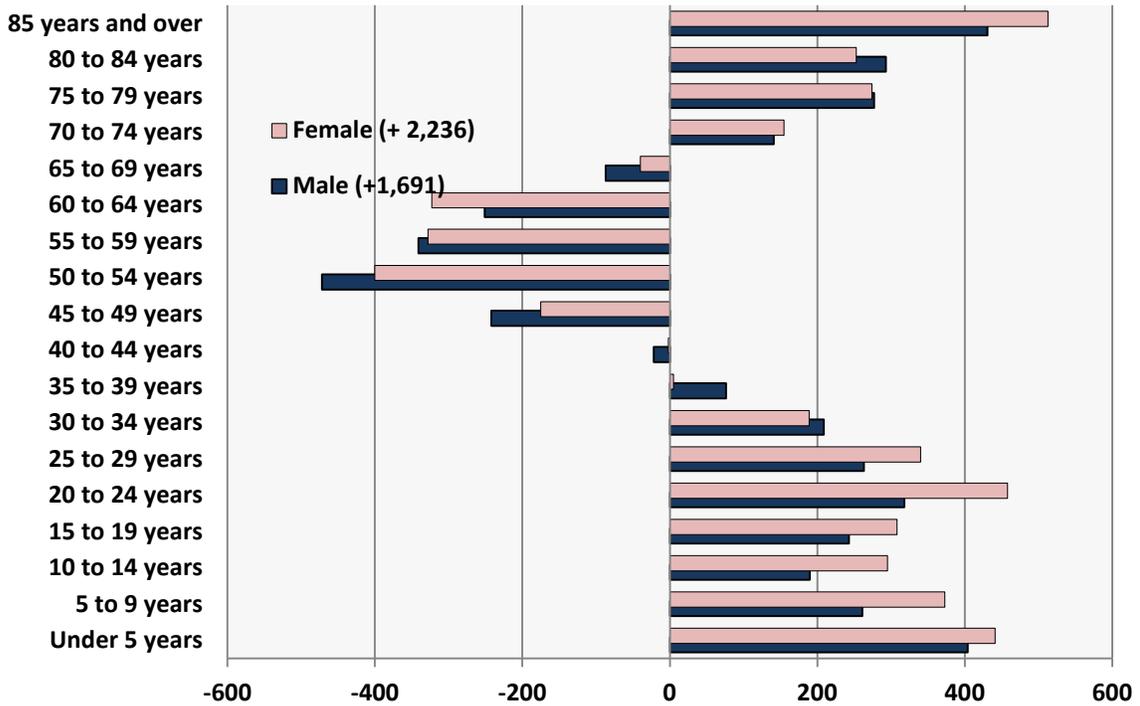
The senior population of residents 65 years and over is projected to increase across all jurisdictions in every decade. Projections show Mifflin County with the slowest increase, which is still a double digit growth rate.

Figure 2-6 Projected Population Change, Mifflin County: 2010 to 2020



Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center

Figure 2-7 Projected Population Change, Mifflin County: 2010 to 2040



Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center

Pyramids of projected population change by age group show that in the next decade, 2010-2020, Mifflin County is expected to increase its population in all age groups 55 years and older as well as young adults 20-34 years and young children under 10. The mature adult and teen age groups are expected to decline in number (Figure 2-6). Projecting farther to 2040, residents in the 40 to 69 year age groups will decline in number while those 70 and older and 39 and younger will increase (Figure 2-7).

MIFFLIN COUNTY PROJECTIONS

Mifflin County reviews state-provided projections and makes adjustments or prepares new projections based on its local knowledge of development trends and planned improvements.

Such was the case during the preparation of the Mifflin County Public Sewer Plan, adopted in August 2008. In the plan, the County based population and housing projections on recent land development activity in the County. It indicated that land development activity would continue to climb in the outlying townships, while most boroughs would experience losses in population and tax base.

By the numbers, it projected the County would increase by over 3,800 residents and a corresponding 1,550 dwelling units by 2020. Much of the growth was projected in Brown, Derry and Granville Townships. While these communities would likely have grown quickly upon completion of the U.S. Route 322 and 522 improvements, the recession took effect just a few months later and stalled investments by many developers. For this reason, the County's population projections made in 2008 were not considered reasonable for 2020 and beyond.

The stalled development projects are still a factor in making new population projections, even though the pace of their construction and occupancy is uncertain. These projects include:

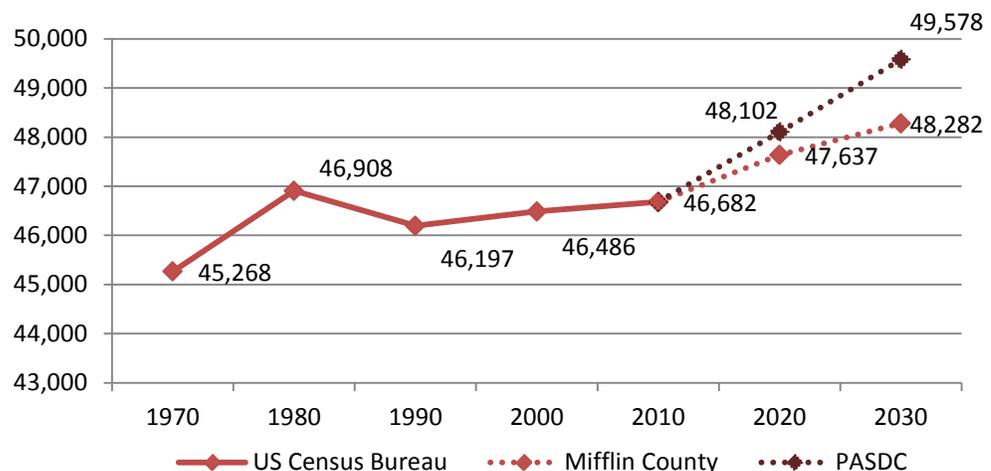
- Blossom Hill, a residential development project of Berks Homes and Dana Glass Properties, Inc., located in Derry Township, will include more than 300 single family, duplex and town homes when completed.
- Derry Heights, a project of Moraitis Properties of Pittsburgh, located near the Burnham interchange of U.S. Route 322 in Derry Township, will include a hotel, restaurant and 10-screen multiplex theatre in its first phase and additional hotels, an indoor sports complex, water park and family entertainment center in its second.

- Quillas Creek, a project of CENPA Development LLC, located along PA Route 655 in Brown Township, calls for a mix of more than 400 single-family, duplex, townhouse and apartment housing units and a variety of commercial, professional and business sites located around a town center.

Given the number of homes in these projects and an assumption of some growth throughout the county, an optimistic scenario for population growth for the County is an increase of about 950 residents (two percent) by 2020; a smaller increase of 645 residents is projected for the year 2030 (Table 2-23).

Figure 2-8 shows the County’s projected population for 2020 and 2030 as prepared by PASDC and by the County itself. The PASDC projections are only slightly higher than the County’s own.

Figure 2-8 Population Projections for Mifflin County, 2020 and 2030



Source: Mifflin County Planning and Development Department, 2013

MUNICIPALITIES

Growth is projected in all ten of the townships. The largest numeric growth is expected in Brown Township (+615), Decatur Township (+292), and Wayne Township (+223). Decline is projected in all six boroughs. Lewistown is projected to lose 634 residents, Burnham to lose 188 residents, and Juniata Terrace to lose 108 residents.

PLANNING REGIONS

The South Central Region is the only planning region projected to lose population in the next two decades. Total projected growth of +100 residents in Derry and Granville Townships is not enough to offset projected total projected declines of -929 in the three boroughs.

Table 2-23 Population Projections, 2020-2040, by Municipality and Planning Region

	Counts					Projections	
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030
Mifflin County	45,268	46,908	46,197	46,486	46,682	47,637	48,282
Numeric Change		1,640	-711	289	196	954	645
Percent Change		3.62%	-1.52%	0.63%	0.42%	2.04%	1.35%
Armagh Township	3,385	3,742	3,627	3,988	3,863	4,082	4,202
Bratton Township	1,224	1,426	1,427	1,259	1,317	1,336	1,338
Brown Township*	2,742	3,069	3,320	3,852	4,053	4,668	5,168
Burnham Borough	2,607	2,457	2,197	2,144	2,054	1,866	1,724
Decatur Township	2,216	2,513	2,735	3,021	3,137	3,429	3,664
Derry Township*	7,877	8,008	7,650	7,256	7,339	7,357	7,360
Granville Township*	4,626	5,116	5,090	4,894	5,104	5,186	5,260
Juniata Terrace Borough	733	682	556	502	542	434	378
Kistler Borough	369	372	314	344	320	306	293
Lewistown Borough*	11,098	9,830	9,341	8,998	8,338	7,704	7,129
McVeytown Borough	486	477	408	405	342	316	280
Menno Township	1,308	1,590	1,637	1,763	1,883	2,033	2,165
Newton-Hamilton Borough	280	328	287	272	205	213	192
Oliver Township	1,528	1,774	1,822	2,060	2,175	2,346	2,504
Union Township	2,965	3,033	3,265	3,313	3,460	3,588	3,715
Wayne Township	1,824	2,491	2,521	2,414	2,550	2,773	2,910
Planning Regions							
Northwest	4,273	4,623	4,902	5,076	5,343	5,621	5,881
Northeast	6,127	6,811	6,947	7,840	7,916	8,749	9,369
Southwest	2,473	3,191	3,122	3,030	3,075	3,291	3,395
SW Central	3,238	3,677	3,657	3,724	3,834	3,998	4,122
S Central	26,941	26,093	24,834	23,794	23,377	22,548	21,850
Southeast	2,216	2,513	2,735	3,021	3,137	3,429	3,664

Source: Mifflin County Planning and Development Department, 2013.

* Municipal projections reflect projected partial construction of approved development plans:
 Brown Township - Quillas Creek (209 persons/decade) and Edgewood Estates (30 persons/decade)
 Derry Township - Blossom Hill (196 persons /decade) plus increase similar to 2000-2010 (83 persons/decade)
 Lewistown Borough - Mann Edge Terrace (42 persons/decade) and the Lewistown Hotel (47 persons/decade)

Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. **Southwest:** Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township.

Southwest Central: McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. **Southeast:** Decatur Township.

Northwest: Menno and Union Townships. **Northeast:** Brown and Armagh Townships.

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CHAPTER 3

HOUSING ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

Housing provides shelter, security, and stability for residents. Together with its real estate, housing consumes much of the developed land and represents the largest store of private wealth for many communities. For these reasons, housing is a relevant topic for public policy and planning. Potential actions include rehabilitation of housing units as an eligible activity of the federally-funded Community Development Block Grant program and land use and development regulations that influence the location and density new dwellings. Furthermore, local and county governments can lead or stimulate the development of low to moderate income housing as well as housing for senior citizens to meet local needs. This chapter explores the characteristics of the housing stock in Mifflin County in order to identify housing needs and opportunities for county and local policy to address them. Data in this chapter was drawn from the Census of Population and Housing, 2000 and 2010, recent American Community Surveys, and interview with realtors and social service agencies, unless otherwise noted.

HOUSING UNITS, OCCUPANCY AND TENURE

According to the 2010 Census, there were 21,537 housing units in Mifflin County in 2010, an increase of 792 units or 3.8 percent over the last decade (Table 3-1). Pennsylvania experienced a 6 percent increase in housing units

Housing growth in Mifflin County outpaced population growth from 2000 to 2010.

and the surrounding counties had even higher increases, ranging from 6.2 percent in Huntingdon County to 19.1 percent in Centre County.

Based on estimates of the year each unit was built (Table 3-2), 4.7 percent of the current housing stock or 1,016 units, were built during the past decade. New housing comprised 7.5 percent of the state’s housing stock and 7 percent (Snyder County) to 11.8 percent (Centre County) of housing stocks in surrounding counties. Comparing the 1,016 new units in the County to the net increase of 792 housing units yields 224 units lost to conversion to other uses, demolition, fire/non-replacement, etc.

OCCUPANCY

The majority of housing units, 18,743 units (87.0 percent) were occupied in 2010—an increase of 330 units and a 1.8 percent decline since 2000—while 2,794 units (13.0 percent) were vacant. Pennsylvania’s vacancy rate was 9.9 percent and rates in adjacent counties ranged from 8.0 percent in Snyder County to 22.7 percent in Huntingdon County.

Among Mifflin County’s vacant units, nearly half (44.8 percent or 1,251 units) were seasonal vacant units used for camping, hunting, and recreational housing (Table 3-1). The percentage of seasonal units in the County is high compared to the state but about in the middle compared to the counties in the region. The extremely high percentage of seasonal units in Huntingdon County is due to the presence of Raystown Lake. This impact spills over to municipalities in western Mifflin County (Table 3-3, page 3-5).

Seasonal housing is concentrated near recreational destinations.

Seasonal vacant units, such as those used as hunting or summer cabins, increased by 171 units since 2000 and represented 21.3 percent of the net increase in housing units in the County. This increase may have resulted from new construction or from the conversion of occupied units to seasonal (vacant) units. The largest increases in seasonal vacant units occurred in Granville Township (49 units), where seasonal units remained a relatively small proportion of the housing stock (3 percent), and Armagh Township (48 units), where they represented nearly 20 percent of the housing stock.

When the seasonal vacant units are discounted, the non-seasonal vacancy rate was 7.6 percent— up slightly from 6.4 percent in 2000. The County’s rate was higher than Pennsylvania’s 6.4 percent and higher than surrounding counties, which ranged from 3.7 percent in Centre County to 5.8 percent in Huntingdon County.

Table 3-1 Housing Units, Occupancy, and Vacancy, 2000 to 2010

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Housing Units, 2010	5,567,315	21,537	63,297	22,365	10,978	16,027	16,997
Total Housing Units, 2000	5,249,750	20,745	53,161	21,058	10,031	14,890	14,684
Numeric change, 2000-2010	317,565	792	10,136	1,307	947	1,137	2,313
Percent Change, 2000-2010	6.0%	3.8%	19.1%	6.2%	9.4%	7.6%	15.8%
Occupied Units, 2010	5,018,904	18,743	57,573	17,280	9,476	14,750	14,765
as a percent of Total	90.1%	87.0%	91.0%	77.3%	86.3%	92.0%	86.9%
Owner-Occupied Units	3,491,722	13,613	33,716	13,136	7,213	10,947	10,492
as a percent of Total	69.6%	72.6%	58.6%	76.0%	76.1%	74.2%	71.1%
Renter-Occupied Units	1,527,182	5,130	23,857	4,144	2,263	3,803	4,273
Occupied Units, 2000	4,777,003	18,413	49,323	16,759	8,584	13,654	13,178
Vacant Units, 2010	548,411	2,794	5,724	5,085	1,502	1,277	2,232
as a percent of Total	9.9%	13.0%	9.0%	22.7%	13.7%	8.0%	13.1%
Vacant-Seasonal	161,582	1,251	3,374	3,794	931	477	1,348
as a percent of Total	2.9%	5.8%	5.3%	17.0%	8.5%	3.0%	7.9%
Vacant-Non-Seasonal	386,829	1,543	2,350	1,291	571	800	884
as a percent of Total	6.9%	7.2%	3.7%	5.8%	5.2%	5.0%	5.2%
Vacant Units, 2000	472,747	2,332	3,838	4,299	1,447	1,236	1,506

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2000 and 2010

Table 3-2 Estimated Year Built for Housing Units

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Housing Units	5,558,024	21,538	62,734	22,334	10,930	15,980	16,871
2000 to 2005 or later	7.5%	4.7%	11.8%	7.1%	7.4%	3.7%	8.9%
1990 to 1999	9.3%	10.0%	15.9%	11.5%	15.5%	11.7%	15.5%
1980 to 1989	9.9%	9.8%	14.0%	10.9%	14.1%	14.3%	11.4%
1970 to 1979	12.8%	14.7%	16.8%	17.1%	17.2%	17.6%	13.7%
1960 to 1969	10.1%	10.3%	10.7%	6.7%	7.1%	10.4%	7.9%
1950 to 1959	14.0%	12.3%	9.9%	8.5%	7.6%	8.3%	9.4%
1940 to 1940	8.6%	8.2%	4.1%	6.0%	5.8%	5.3%	6.5%
1939 or earlier	27.8%	30.0%	16.9%	32.3%	25.3%	25.4%	26.7%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010

Over one third of the 1,543 non-seasonal vacant units in the County were located in Lewistown, which may be attributed to the age and deterioration of the housing stock in the Borough. In addition, the recent economic downturn resulted in housing abandonment. Stakeholders reported that landlords were leaving their buildings vacant rather making needed repairs. However, in 2011, two landlords made significant improvements to their rental properties in Lewistown, bringing 14 modern apartment units onto the market. This was the first private market activity in many years.

Some vacancies are attributed to the deteriorating condition of housing.

Rentals of all types and sizes provide short-term housing options for new residents and those with limited time for home maintenance.

TENURE

Mifflin County’s housing stock was largely owner-occupied—13,613 units or 72.6 percent of all occupied units. While the lowest figure in 20 years, it was above the state’s owner-occupancy rate of 69.6 percent and was slightly below Huntingdon County (76.0 percent), Juniata County (76.1 percent) and Snyder County (74.2 percent). Within the County, the owner-occupancy rate was highest in Bratton Township (86.7 percent) followed by Decatur Township and Wayne Township (both 84.8 percent).

There were 5,130 renter-occupied units in the County in 2010. Renter-occupied housing increased by 348 units and increased as a proportion of the occupied housing stock from 26 percent in 2000 to 27.4 percent in 2010. Stakeholders reported that the economic downturn and credit crisis experienced over the past several years have made it more difficult to sell houses. As a result, houses that were intended for sale were being rented to cover costs until the housing market improves. However, interviews with realtors indicated that single family homes for rent were few and rental apartments tend to be outdated and below market rate. Single family home rentals provide housing for families moving into a community who want some time to find a location and neighborhood that meets their needs. Modern market rate apartments serve individuals and small families of moderate to upper income who aren’t interested in homeownership and maintenance, due to temporary employment, demanding work schedules or other preferences.

MUNICIPALITIES

As shown in Table 3-3, four townships had significantly greater housing growth than the Commonwealth. The largest numeric increase of 235 units occurred in Granville Township. Brown Township (198 unit), Union Township (115 units) and Wayne Township (115 units) also had significant increases. Three of these four have good access to Route 322 and/or Route 522, contributing to the desirability of these communities.

Conversely, over the past decade Lewistown Borough experienced a net loss of 171 units. Community stakeholders attributed the decline in housing units in Lewistown to fires, buildings being condemned and the closing of the Lewistown Hotel, which provided single room occupancy and re-opened in 2013 as Ansal Apartments with 22 market rate units, and minimal new housing development.

Table 3-3 – Housing Changes by Municipality and Planning Region, 2000 to 2010

	Total Housing Units		Change		Total Vacant 2000	Seasonal Vacant 2000	Seasonal as % of Total Vacant, 2000	Total Vacant 2010		Seasonal Vacant 2010	Seasonal as % of Total Vacant, 2010	Percent Vacant	
	2000	2010	Number	Percent				2010	2010			2000	2010
Mifflin County													
(as sum of municipal)	20,782	21,537	755	3.5%	2,332	1,082	46.4%	2,794	1,253	44.8%	6.3%	7.6%	
Armagh Township	1,956	2,046	90	4.4%	424	355	83.7%	511	403	78.9%	4.3%	6.6%	
Bratton Township	605	660	55	8.3%	123	93	75.6%	148	118	79.7%	5.9%	5.5%	
Brown Township	1,523	1,721	198	11.5%	120	65	54.2%	147	63	42.9%	3.8%	5.1%	
Burnham Borough	983	934	-49	-5.2%	64	4	6.3%	68	2	2.9%	6.1%	7.1%	
Decatur Township	1,273	1,301	28	2.2%	123	70	56.9%	130	81	62.3%	4.4%	4.0%	
Derry Townships	3,161	3,243	82	2.5%	215	24	11.2%	238	27	11.3%	6.1%	6.6%	
Granville Township	2,110	2,345	235	10.0%	139	25	18.0%	226	74	32.7%	5.5%	6.7%	
Juniata Terrace Borough	233	252	19	7.5%	10	0	0.0%	14	1	7.1%	4.3%	5.2%	
Kistler Borough	141	140	-1	-0.7%	3	1	33.3%	13	1	7.7%	1.4%	8.6%	
Lewistown Borough	4,516	4,345	-171	-3.9%	492	10	2.0%	603	17	2.8%	10.7%	13.5%	
McVeytown borough	182	168	-14	-8.3%	14	2	14.3%	15	1	6.7%	6.7%	8.4%	
Menno Township	551	586	35	6.0%	67	46	68.7%	69	51	73.9%	4.2%	3.4%	
Newton Hamilton Boroug	114	100	-14	-14.0%	15	4	26.7%	15	2	13.3%	10.0%	13.3%	
Oliver Township	962	994	32	3.2%	158	119	75.3%	141	108	76.6%	4.6%	3.7%	
Union Township	1,242	1,357	115	8.5%	79	36	45.6%	109	49	45.0%	3.6%	4.6%	
Wayne Township	1,230	1,345	115	8.6%	286	228	79.7%	347	255	73.5%	5.8%	8.4%	
Planning Regions													
Northwest	1,793	1,943	150	7.7%	146	82	56.2%	178	100	56.2%	3.7%	4.2%	
Northeast	3,479	3,767	288	7.6%	544	420	77.2%	658	466	70.8%	4.1%	5.8%	
Southwest	1,485	1,585	100	6.3%	304	233	76.6%	375	258	68.8%	5.7%	8.8%	
SW Central	1,749	1,822	73	4.0%	295	214	72.5%	304	227	74.7%	5.3%	4.8%	
S Central	11,003	11,119	116	1.0%	920	63	6.8%	1,149	121	10.5%	7.8%	9.3%	
Southeast	1,273	1,301	28	2.2%	123	70	56.9%	130	81	62.3%	4.4%	4.0%	
Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. Southwest: Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. Southwest Central: McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. Southeast: Decatur Township. Northwest: Menno and Union Townships. Northeast: Brown and Armagh Townships.													

All other boroughs except Juniata Terrace also lost housing units from 2000 to 2010. Burnham Borough lost 49 units (5.2 percent). Losses in Kistler, Newton Hamilton and McVeytown were less than 15 units but as much as 14.0 percent of units in the small community of Newton Hamilton.

PLANNING REGIONS

Housing unit changes are less visible when the statistics are aggregated to the Planning Region level. This is largely due to the fact that losses in the Boroughs are offset by gains in the Townships.

All six planning regions gained housing units from 2000 to 2010, increasing their housing stock by at least 2.2 percent. The Northeast Region gained the most units (288 units or 7.6 percent) followed by the Northwest Region (150 units or 7.7 percent). The smallest increase of 28 units, or 2.2 percent, was in the Southeast Region, namely Decatur Township.

The County's elderly population is reflected in its high rate of homeownership among older households.

Numeric seasonal unit increases were highest in the South Central Region (58 units, almost all in Granville) and lowest in Southeast (11 units). The South Central Region also had the largest percentage increase in seasonal units (92.1 percent); the Southwest Region had the smallest percentage increase (10.7 percent, but 25 units).

The residential vacancy rate, seasonal units excluded, was highest in the South Central Region at 9.3 percent and lowest in the Southeast at 4.0 percent. As a result of the economic recession and slow recovery, non-seasonal residential vacancies have risen above the 4-6 percent “healthy” threshold in many municipalities and in three of the planning regions. Given the economic and housing market conditions at hand, this condition is a concern that many communities have in common and one for which there is no easy solution.

HOME OWNERSHIP AND RENTAL BY AGE

Older homeowners made up a significant portion of all homeowners in the County in 2010 (Table 3-4). Nearly one in three homeowners (31.3 percent) was 65 years and over—up from 29.1 percent in 1990. This figure was higher than Pennsylvania’s 27.5 percent, which was among the highest in the nation, and higher than surrounding counties. This statistic strongly reflects the older population of Mifflin County and may reflect a lack of senior housing options, leaving older homeowners with few choices but to stay in their homes.

Table 3-4 Housing Ownership and Rentals by Householder Age, 2010

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Occupied	5,018,904	18,743	57,573	17,280	9,476	14,750	14,765
Total Owner Occupied	3,491,722	13,613	33,716	13,136	7,213	10,947	10,492
Owner Occupied by Age							
15- 24 Years	0.9%	1.1%	1.2%	1.1%	1.4%	1.2%	1.0%
25-34 Years	9.1%	9.0%	9.7%	8.0%	10.1%	9.3%	8.1%
35-44 Years	16.8%	16.4%	17.4%	16.1%	17.1%	17.1%	17.2%
45-54 Years	23.6%	21.3%	23.4%	21.8%	22.6%	22.7%	22.9%
55-64 Years	22.1%	21.0%	22.1%	22.6%	21.1%	21.6%	21.6%
65-74 Years	14.2%	16.7%	14.2%	16.5%	15.0%	15.5%	15.6%
75 Years and over	13.3%	14.6%	11.9%	14.0%	12.6%	12.7%	13.4%
Total Renter Occupied	1,527,182	5,130	23,857	4,144	2,263	3,803	4,273
Renter Occupied by Age							
15- 24 Years	11.1%	7.6%	41.7%	10.8%	8.1%	12.0%	13.2%
25-34 Years	23.3%	18.5%	24.6%	20.5%	20.5%	20.4%	20.7%
35-44 Years	16.9%	17.2%	10.3%	16.9%	17.0%	17.5%	14.2%
45-54 Years	16.6%	18.1%	7.8%	16.6%	17.6%	14.9%	14.1%
55-64 Years	12.1%	13.6%	5.6%	12.8%	11.2%	11.0%	38.4%
65-74 Years	7.7%	9.9%	3.6%	9.7%	9.5%	8.5%	8.8%
75 Years and over	12.3%	15.1%	6.4%	12.8%	16.0%	15.6%	18.3%

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2000 and 2010.

Roughly 10 percent homeowners were under age 35. This figure was down from 15.1 percent in 1990. This reflects a smaller population under 35 years and/or a tight housing market with few available units and/or limited financing for first-time home buyers.

Renters by age are more evenly distributed across the age cohorts. Renters over the age of 65 comprise 25.0 percent of all renters, a higher percentage than across Pennsylvania (20.0 percent). Renters under the age of 35 comprise 26.1 percent, which is significantly lower than the state's 34.3 percent and the lowest among surroundings counties.

MUNICIPALITIES

Home ownership rates vary from 46 percent in Lewistown to over 88 percent in several of the Townships (Table 3-5). Lewistown, Derry Township, and Granville Township have the greatest numbers of renter households in the County (2,023, 587, and 461, respectively) which is consistent with tenure in urbanized areas. Beyond the Greater Lewistown area, renters as a proportion of all households are a small group. Even among the other boroughs, only Juniata Terrace has more than 30 percent rental occupancy.

Table 3-5 Housing Ownership and Rentals by Householder Age, 2010

	Total	Owner occupied		Renter occupied	
Mifflin County	18,743	13,613	72.6%	5,130	27.4%
Armagh township	1,535	1,232	80.3%	303	19.7%
Bratton township	512	444	86.7%	68	13.3%
Brown township	1,574	1,247	79.2%	327	20.8%
Burnham borough	866	612	70.7%	254	29.3%
Decatur township	1,171	993	84.8%	178	15.2%
Derry township	3,005	2,418	80.5%	587	19.5%
Granville township	2,119	1,658	78.2%	461	21.8%
Juniata Terrace borough	238	151	63.4%	87	36.6%
Kistler borough	127	100	78.7%	27	21.3%
Lewistown borough	3,742	1,719	45.9%	2,023	54.1%
McVeytown borough	153	116	75.8%	37	24.2%
Menno township	517	405	78.3%	112	21.7%
Newton Hamilton borough	85	64	75.3%	21	24.7%
Oliver township	853	697	81.7%	156	18.3%
Union township	1,248	911	73.0%	337	27.0%
Wayne township	998	846	84.8%	152	15.2%

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2000 and 2010.

HOUSING UNIT TYPE, SIZE AND VALUE

HOUSING UNIT TYPE

In recent years, 70.4 percent of the housing units in Mifflin County were single family detached homes (Table 3-6), an increase of 4.6 percent since 1990. This figure of single family detached homes was higher than for the state (56.9 percent). But with the exception of Centre County (57.8 percent), surrounding counties had even higher percentages of single family detached homes, ranging from 73.4 percent in Union County to 80.5 percent in Juniata County. The results of the 2011 Quality of Life Survey showed an overall preference among county residents for single family homes, with 73 percent responding that they favored single family detached homes over other types of housing.

Most housing units were single family homes. Roughly 12% were multi-family units and 8%, mobile homes.

Single family detached homes were the most prevalent type of housing in all municipalities except Juniata Terrace, where nearly all homes are single family attached units (row homes) constructed by American Viscose prior to 1940.

Table 3-6 Housing Unit Types

	PA	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Total Units	5,558,024	21,538	62,734	22,334	10,930	15,980	16,871
Single Family Detached	56.9%	70.4%	57.8%	76.3%	80.5%	75.9%	73.4%
Single Family Attached	18.2%	10.5%	6.9%	2.0%	1.9%	5.6%	4.4%
Duplexes	4.8%	2.9%	2.4%	3.1%	1.1%	3.1%	4.0%
3 or 4 Unit	4.3%	2.8%	3.2%	2.3%	1.8%	1.9%	5.1%
5 to 9 Unit	3.4%	2.4%	5.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.9%	2.7%
10 to 19 Unit	2.6%	1.0%	6.9%	0.1%	1.3%	0.7%	1.7%
20 to 49 Unit	1.9%	0.9%	5.5%	0.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%
50+ Unit	3.7%	1.5%	5.9%	1.2%	0.1%	1.3%	1.3%
Mobile Homes	4.3%	7.6%	5.6%	13.3%	11.2%	9.0%	7.1%
Boat, RV, Van, etc.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010

Mobile homes represented the second most prevalent housing unit type in Mifflin County – 1,634 units and 7.6 percent of the housing stock. This figure declined since 1990 due in part to greater regulation and enforcement of floodplain ordinances. Mobile homes were concentrated in the rural townships, with one in five located in Granville Township. Other townships with large proportions of mobile homes were Armagh, Decatur, Derry, and Wayne. Newton Hamilton had a relatively small number of mobile homes (26) but they represent nearly a quarter of the borough’s housing stock.

Multi-family housing units were rare in this rural county. Multi-family housing units with between 2 and 19 units per structure were only found in Armagh, Derry, Granville, and Oliver Townships and Burnham Borough. Larger apartment buildings (50+ units) were only found in Lewistown.

Home sizes have increased while household sizes have declined.

HOUSING UNIT SIZE AND PERSONS PER OCCUPIED UNIT

Housing units of moderate to large size dominate the housing stock in the County according to the 2010 Census (Table 3-7A). Units of five, six and seven rooms (excluding bathrooms and halls) make up 58.4 percent of all units compared to the state average of 53.2 percent. Approximately 11.4 percent of housing units had 9 or more rooms—and increase from 5.7 percent in 1990. Only 20.2 percent of all housing units in the County have four or fewer rooms.

Homes built since 2000 were on average larger than existing homes. But larger homes have not necessarily provided a better housing market. At the stakeholder meetings, employers reported that there was not an adequate supply of newer, smaller units.

Table 3-7A Rooms per Housing Unit

Mifflin	
Rooms per Housing Unit	
1 room	1.1%
2 rooms	1.4%
3 rooms	6.6%
4 rooms	11.1%
5 rooms	22.2%
6 rooms	20.7%
7 rooms	15.5%
8 rooms	9.9%
9 or more rooms	11.4%

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2010.

Table 3-7B Persons per Household

Mifflin	
Persons per Household	
1 person	27.0%
2 persons	37.3%
3 persons	15.2%
4 persons	11.4%
5 persons	5.0%
6 persons	2.1%
7 or more persons	1.9%
Average Persons per Household	2.46

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2010.

Table 3-7C Occupants per Room

Mifflin	
Owner Occupied	14,067
.5 or less	77.8%
.51 to 1.00	20.4%
1.01 to 1.50	1.4%
1.51 to 2.00	0.4%
2.01 or more	0.0%
Renter Occupied	4,887
.5 or less	25.5%
.51 to 1.00	9.1%
1.01 to 1.50	0.1%
1.51 to 2.00	0.0%
2.01 or more	0.0%

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2010.

Overcrowding is generally defined as more than one person per room. Data from the 2010 census show that there are very few instances of more than one person per room in the County (Table 3-7B). Thus, overcrowding is not a major problem in Mifflin County. However, this and other data from the census reveal evidence of the opposite imbalance between household size and housing unit size. Only 9.0 percent of households in the County have five or more persons, while 79.7 percent of units have five or more rooms (Table 3-7C). At the same time, 90.9 percent of households have four or fewer persons, while 20.2 percent of units have four or rooms less than four rooms. This suggests that many empty nesters and single persons are living in units which might be much larger than they would choose if smaller units were available—more specifically that there is an apparent shortage of smaller units in the County. Realtors agreed, citing a trend in Mifflin County households wanting to downsize the overall size of their home or seeking to move to a one-story home.

VALUE OF OWNER-OCCUPIED UNITS

The median value of owner-occupied homes in Mifflin County was \$95,700 (Table 3-8). This figure was significantly lower than Pennsylvania’s median value of \$165,200, and lower than surrounding counties, which ranging from \$111,300 in Huntingdon County to \$187,500 in Centre County. On the upper end of values, nearly 40 percent of homes statewide were valued at over \$200,000 while only 13.6 percent were valued over \$200,000 in Mifflin County. On the lower end, 11.9 percent of homes statewide were valued less than \$60,000, while nearly twice that percentage, 20.2 percent, were valued less than \$60,000 in the County.

Table 3-8 Value of Owner-Occupied Housing, 2010

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Owner-Occupied Units	3,490,144	14,067	32,859	12,800	7,138	10,854	11,512
<\$25,000	4.2%	5.6%	4.2%	6.7%	5.9%	4.8%	3.3%
\$25,000 - \$40,000	2.7%	4.1%	1.9%	3.0%	2.1%	2.1%	0.9%
\$40,000 - \$60,000	5.0%	10.5%	1.9%	7.5%	2.4%	4.4%	3.4%
\$60,000 - \$100,000	15.7%	33.1%	9.4%	27.8%	23.0%	20.6%	17.0%
\$100,000 - \$150,000	16.6%	19.9%	16.6%	18.8%	25.3%	27.6%	25.9%
\$150,000 - \$200,000	16.4%	13.1%	20.1%	17.5%	19.4%	19.4%	19.6%
>\$200,000	39.4%	13.6%	45.8%	18.8%	21.8%	21.0%	29.9%
Median Value	\$165,200	\$95,700	\$187,500	\$111,300	\$134,000	\$127,300	\$149,200

Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010

Home values across Pennsylvania have more than doubled since 1990. After accounting for inflation, Mifflin County had the smallest median home value increase, 128 percent, while Centre, Huntingdon and Juniata Counties had increases or more than 150 percent.

The median value of recently constructed owner-occupied homes is estimated to be notably higher. Based on estimated construction costs provided on building permit applications, new single family homes averaged \$126,965 in 2010, \$117,550 in 2011, \$114,177 in 2012 and \$110,601 in 2013.

Home values are notable lower than surrounding counties and the state.

MUNICIPALITIES

Generally, the townships, where newer, larger homes have been constructed in recent years, had higher homes values than the boroughs (Table 3-9). Median housing values were highest in Brown and Menno Townships, both at \$141,800 but still lower than the state median. Decatur Township ranked third at an estimated \$104,400. Values in Derry, Oliver and Union Townships were also higher than the County median.

The lowest home values were in Juniata Terrace Borough (\$45,900), Kistler Borough (\$50,900) and Lewistown Borough (\$69,000). However, Juniata Terrace Borough had the second highest median rents at \$632. Brown Township had the highest estimated median rent at \$655 and Decatur Township ranked third at \$601.

Table 3-9 Median Values of Owner-Occupied Housing, 2010

	Median Value
Mifflin County	\$95,700
Armagh Township	\$85,300
Bratton Township	\$95,600
Brown Township	\$141,800
Burnham Borough	\$76,200
Decatur Township	\$104,400
Derry Township	\$98,900
Granville Township	\$94,300
Juniata Terrace Borough	\$45,900
Kistler Borough	\$50,900
Lewistown Borough	\$69,000
McVeytown Borough	\$84,100
Menno Township	\$141,800
Newton Hamilton Borough	\$61,800
Oliver Township	\$99,800
Union Township	\$99,700
Wayne Township	\$90,100

Source: Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010

AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND AVAILABILITY

An important issue in all communities is the availability of affordable housing. This is a concern because families who pay too much of their household income for housing will not have enough for other necessities of life and for home maintenance and repair in the case of homeowners.

As a general rule, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines housing that costs (mortgage, rent and household utilities) greater than 30 percent of household monthly income as too high, or a cost burden to the household. Similarly, banks typically do not write mortgages for more than three times the annual household income. It should also be noted that the cost-burden figure only considers the absolute dollar value of the home. It does not assess the condition of the home.

Nearly 1 in 4 homeowners spends more than 30% of monthly household income on housing and associated costs.

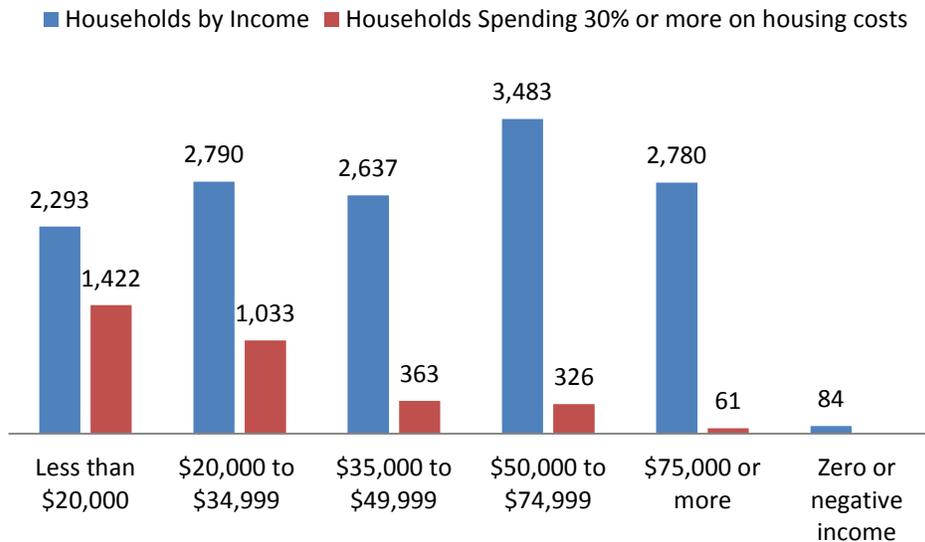
Nearly 1 in 4 homeowners (3,205 or 22.8 percent) in the County was cost-burdened in recent years (Table 3-10). Across all income brackets, Mifflin County percentages were smaller than those of Pennsylvania. Housing cost-burden was most common among households with an income under \$34,999. For households in Mifflin County earning under \$20,000, 62 percent were cost-burdened compared to 75 percent across Pennsylvania. For County households with incomes between \$20,000 and \$34,999, 37 percent were cost-burdened compared with 44 percent across the state.

Table 3-10 Estimates of Housing Cost-Burdened Households

	Pennsylvania		Mifflin County	
Owner-occupied housing units	3,490,144		14,067	
30 percent or more for housing	941,506	27.0%	3,205	22.8%
By Annual Income Level				
< \$20,000	375,013	10.7%	2,293	16.3%
30 percent or more for housing	281,662	75.1%	1,422	62.0%
\$20,000 to \$34,999	492,592	14.1%	2,790	19.8%
30 percent or more for housing	219,084	44.5%	1,033	37.0%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	480,844	13.8%	2,637	18.7%
30 percent or more for housing	159,036	33.1%	363	13.8%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	728,682	20.9%	3,483	24.8%
30 percent or more for housing	163,020	22.4%	326	9.4%
\$75,000 or more	1,392,849	39.9%	2,780	19.8%
30 percent or more for housing	118,704	8.5%	61	2.2%
Zero or negative income	20,164	0.6%	84	0.6%
\$35,000 or more	2,602,375		8,900	
30 percent or more for housing	440,760	16.9%	750	8.4%

Source: American Community Survey 2008-2010

Figure 3-1 Household Income and Owner Housing Costs



Source: US Census Bureau, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3 Year Estimates

A comparison of the household income and housing cost-burden distributions from the American Community Survey (Figure 3-1) suggests that there is a need for lower cost housing in Mifflin County. An estimated 7,720 households had an annual income of less than \$35,000 and 2,818 had housing costs above 30 percent of that income. By definition, the remaining 4,902 households had found affordable housing.

A generalized comparison of owner-occupied household income to owner-occupied housing values reveals a potential deficit of (or market for) approximately 2,400 homes valued over \$150,000 (Table 3-11).

Table 3-11 Income to Housing Value Comparison, 2010

Estimated Household Housing Budget	Needed Units	Owner-Occupied Housing Values	Existing Units	Surplus/Deficit
< \$60,000	2,293	\$60,000 or less	2,849	556
\$60,000 to \$104,999	2,790	\$60,000 - \$100,000	4,661	1,871
\$105,000 to \$149,999	2,637	\$100,000 - \$150,000	2,802	165
\$150,000 to \$224,999	3,483	\$150,000 - \$200,000	1,843	-1,640
>\$225,000 income	2,780	>\$200,000	1,912	-868

An analysis of household income and housing values shows a potential market for more homes valued at \$150,000 and over.

Notes:

1. Estimated Housing Budget = Owner-Occupied Household Income x 3 (a rule of thumb maximum for mortgage financing)
2. Owner-Occupied Housing Values and Existing Units aggregated from Table 3-8
3. Surplus/Deficit = Needed Units – Existing Units

Source: Gannett Fleming

MEDIAN RENT

While rents were relatively low in Mifflin County, renters tended to have lower incomes than owners and 42 percent, especially those with the lowest incomes, were cost-burdened by rent and utilities. This mirrored statewide patterns, where 45 percent of renters were cost burdened. The median gross monthly rent in Mifflin County (\$544) was substantially lower than for the state (\$751). Only Huntingdon County had a lower median rent (\$506) with Centre County having the highest median rent, \$799.

Of course, rent varies with the size of the unit. The Mifflin County Housing Authority annually surveys landlords to determine the average rates charged on the private rental market (Table 3-12). As reported, these values ranged from \$460 per month for an efficiency apartment to \$1,019 for a four bedroom unit in 2013. The fair market rent limits for existing housing for FY 2014 released by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development reflect a slightly narrower range of \$493 for an efficiency unit to \$851 for a four bedroom unit.

Comparatively, rents are low but still pose a burden to 42% of renter households; 85% of those earning less than \$20,000 per year.

Median rents were highest but still well below the state median in Brown Township (\$655), Juniata Terrace Borough (\$632) and Decatur Township (\$601), and lowest in Union Township (\$429), Bratton Township (\$436), and Wayne Township (\$448) (Table 3-13).

Table 3-12 Reasonable Rent Survey (with estimated utility costs), 2013

Size	Average Rent
Efficiency	\$460.00
1 Bedroom	\$580.00
2 Bedroom	\$706.00
3 Bedroom	\$901.00
4 Bedroom	\$1,019.00

Source: Mifflin Co. Housing Authority

Forty (40) percent of rental housing units were occupied by households with incomes under \$20,000 per year (Table 3-14). Of these, nearly 86 percent were cost burdened or spent more than 30 percent of monthly income on rent and related costs. For those with incomes between \$20,000 and \$34,999, the percentage of cost-burdened renter households was far less but still more than 1 in 4. Only 2 percent of renter households earning \$35,000 or more were cost-burdened.

Table 3-13 Median Rental Values, 2010

	Median
Mifflin County	\$544
Armagh Township	\$538
Bratton Township	\$436
Brown Township	\$655
Burnham Borough	\$508
Decatur Township	\$601
Derry Township	\$548
Granville Township	\$553
Juniata Terrace Borough	\$632
Kistler Borough	\$539
Lewistown Borough	\$493
McVeytown Borough	\$468
Menno Township	\$475
Newton Hamilton Borough	\$585
Oliver Township	\$470
Union Township	\$429
Wayne Township	\$448

Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010

Table 3-14 Estimates of Housing Cost-Burdened Renter Households

	Pennsylvania		Mifflin County	
Renter-occupied housing units	1,462,477		4,887	
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	658,747	45.0%	2,065	42.3%
By Annual Income Level				
< \$20,000	471,143	32.2%	1,953	40.0%
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	400,197	84.9%	1,676	85.8%
\$20,000 to \$34,999	313,467	21.4%	1,368	28.0%
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	185,798	59.3%	370	27.0%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	209,501	14.3%	290	5.9%
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	51,798	24.7%	19	6.6%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	198,831	13.6%	539	11.0%
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	16,635	8.4%	0	0.0%
\$75,000 or more	149,096	10.2%	126	2.6%
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	4,319	2.9%	0	0.0%
Zero or negative income	29,036	2.0%	35	0.7%
No Cash Rent	91,403	6.2%	576	11.8%
\$35,000 or more	557,428		955	
<i>30 percent or more for housing</i>	72,752	13.1%	19	2.0%

Source: American Community Survey 2008-2010

HOUSING AGE AND CONDITION

The age of housing stock is relevant to housing policy, since older homes were constructed under different quality standards and technologies as well as different design styles. Without improvement, these units are typically less energy-efficient, lack modern functions and amenities, and are generally less marketable. They may require one or more significant investments to renovate or rehabilitate and bring them up to code.

Nearly 50% of housing in the South Central planning region was built prior to 1950.

The year 1980 serves as one benchmark for housing age, i.e. homes about 30 years old. Homes built prior to 1980 may contain lead-based paint, which makes them ineligible for federal housing subsidy programs until corrected. Seventy-five percent of the County's housing stock was built prior to 1980. Percentages are higher in the boroughs and in Bratton, Derry, and Menno Townships.

The Mifflin County Housing Authority reported that households with Housing Choice Vouchers were having difficulty locating rental units for a variety of reasons including not being able to meet HUD'S Housing Quality Standards (HQS), especially in Lewistown. This has resulted in delays in their ability to use this housing assistance program.

Realtors reported that existing housing conditions have suffered as people have bought for which they could afford the mortgage but could not afford maintenance and repair. This has resulted in very few homes coming to market in good to excellent condition. In particular, many homes need updates to the kitchen and bathrooms – the rooms with the most built-in furnishings that reflect styles, colors and finishes popular at the time of their construction. Periodic redesign or replacement of cabinets, sinks, lighting and tile are needed to maintain a home in marketable condition. Such functional room updates are costly and often been deferred.

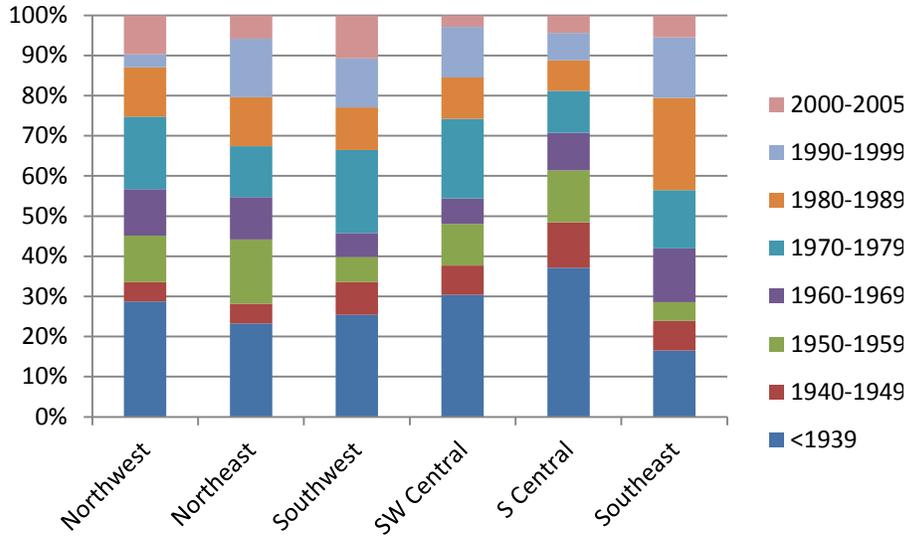
MUNICIPALITIES

The housing stock was oldest in Juniata Terrace where 84.2 percent of the housing was built prior to 1940. Other municipalities with over half their housing units built prior to 1940 were McVeytown (61. 1 percent), Newton Hamilton (58. 4 percent), and Lewistown (52. 8 percent). One third of the housing units in the County built prior to 1940 were located in Lewistown.

PLANNING REGIONS

Figure 3-2 shows the distribution of housing age by planning region. The South Central Region has the largest percentage of housing built prior to 1950. The Northeast had the largest percentage of its current housing built in the 1950s. The Northwest and Southwest Central Regions also had high percentages of homes built prior to 1980.

Figure 3-2 Distribution of Housing Age by Planning Region



Source: American Community Survey, 2006-2010

HOUSING CONDITIONS

Deteriorated housing is a concern because it affects the health and safety of the inhabitants but also because it has a “neighborhood” effect which tends to depress values for nearby homes. Data collected during the 1997-1998 reappraisal for real estate taxes in the County indicated that approximately 1,727 housing units (8.2 percent) were in need of substantial rehabilitation. As a result, the 2000 Comprehensive Plan noted deteriorated housing conditions as a concern and emphasized the need to continue funding for housing rehabilitation.

Given the age and condition of housing, the need for rehabilitation is high.

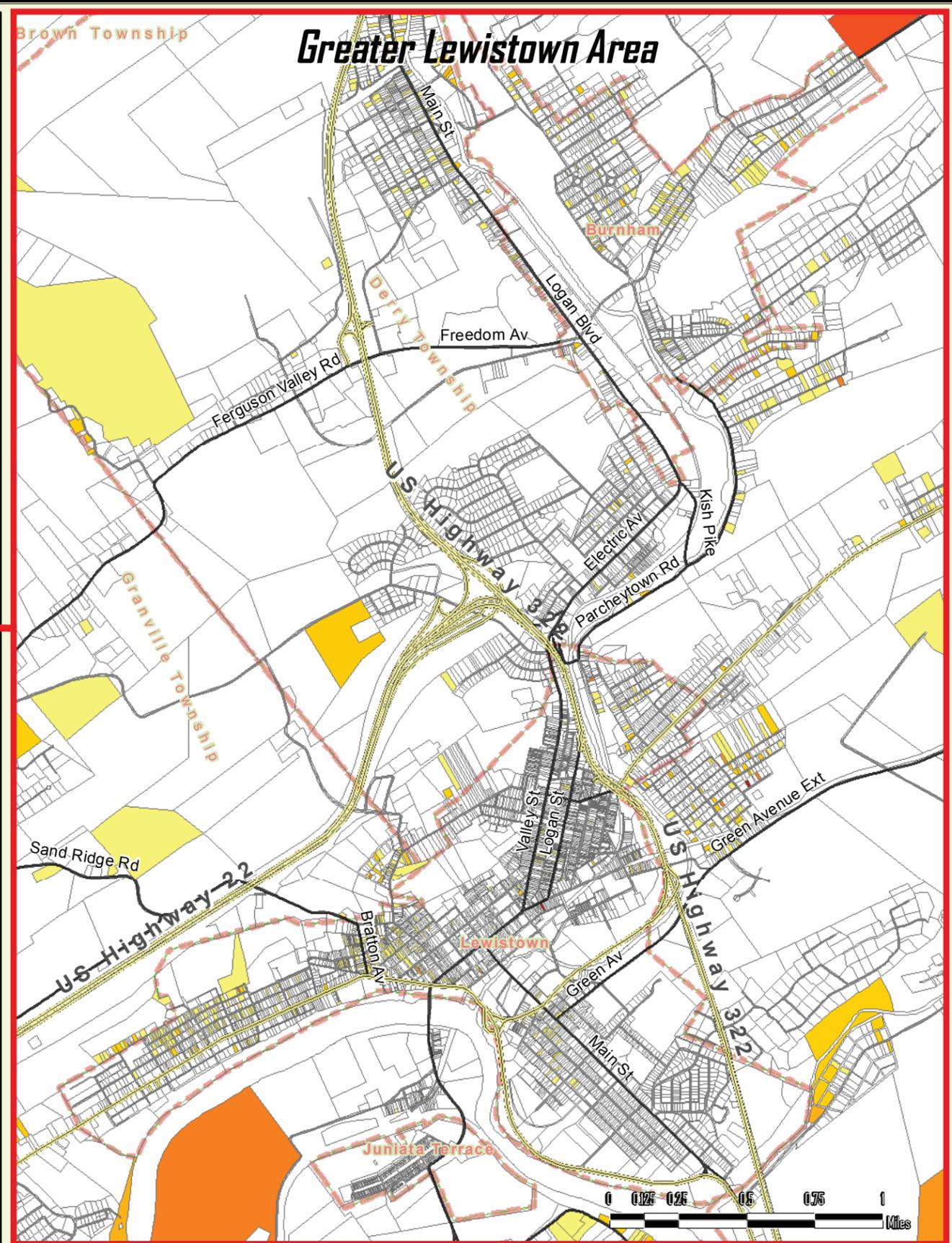
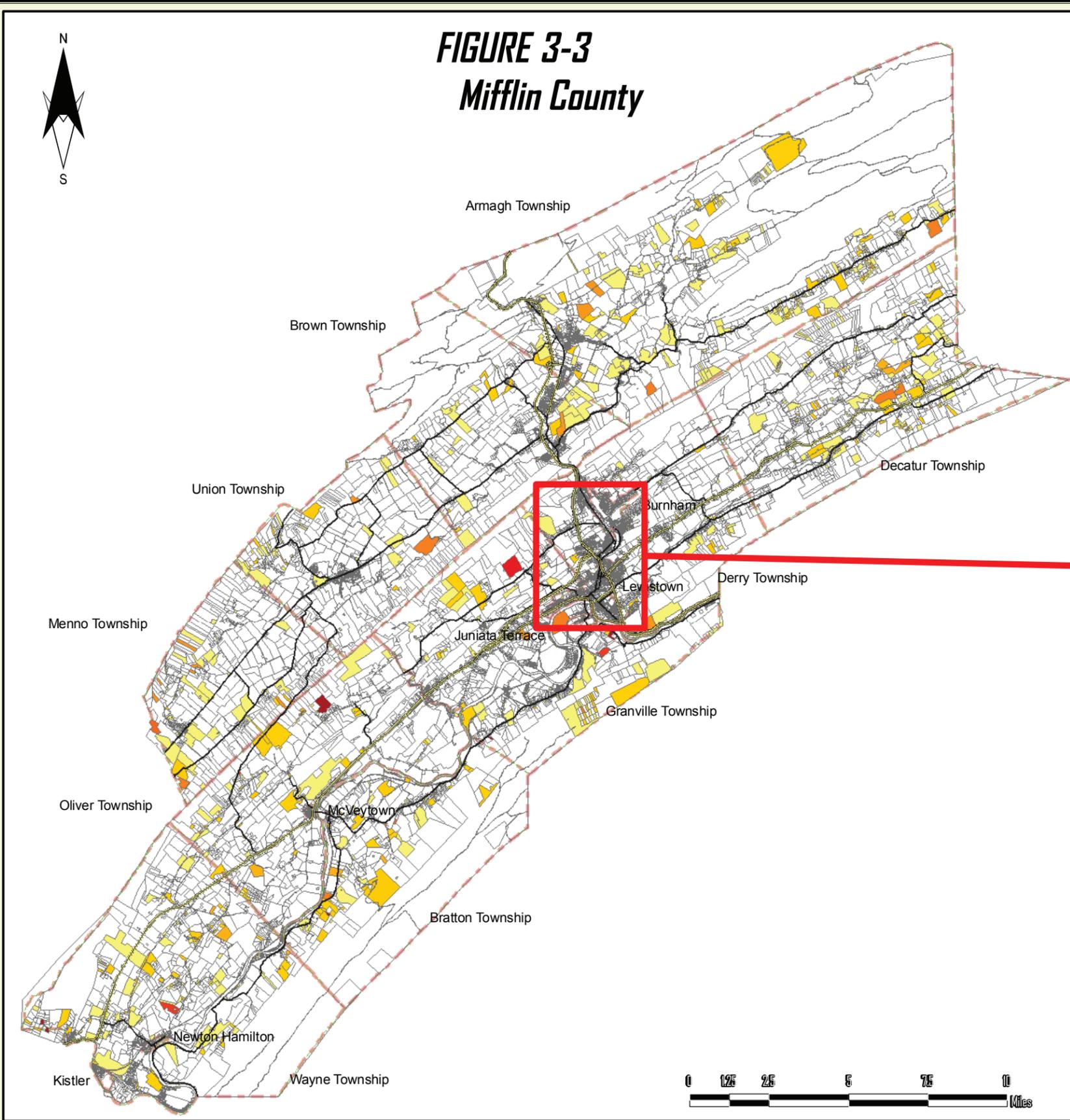
Figure 3-3 illustrates parcels for which the housing was graded as D or substandard in 1997-1998.

HOUSING REHABILITATION

The County's Housing Rehabilitation Program began in 1984. Since then, these funds have rehabilitated approximately 495 homes for qualified homeowners, investing more than \$4,600,000 in grants from the CDBG program, the HOME grant and Brownfields for Housing. The program emphasizes repairs that will correct the most serious building code violations, i.e., health, safety and energy efficiency issues. Examples include exterior and interior general construction, plumbing, heating and electrical. Repairs are limited to 75 percent of the home's fair market value. The program is a first-come, first-served grant program and qualifying applicants are placed on a waiting list. It can take two to four years or more before rehabilitation begins, depending on the total program funds. During calendar year 2013, Mifflin County completed or initiated 11 housing rehabilitation projects, at an average homeowner grant of \$26,500; most projects addressed lead-based paint. More than a dozen low/moderate income applicants remain on the waiting list for housing rehabilitation grants. HOME grant funding is targeted to Lewistown and Derry Township, but other areas of need include Juniata Terrace, Newton Hamilton, Kistler Borough based on the extreme age of their housing stocks.

While the Housing Rehabilitation Program has continued to invest millions of dollars into the housing stock since 2000, there has been no effort to assess whether this funding has addressed the substandard needs identified in the late 1990s. Typically, a re-appraisal of a property, which required property access, is needed to change the housing condition grade recorded by the Assessment Office. A countywide re-appraisal is not on the foreseeable horizon and individual re-appraisals are not likely to be funded by the County either. A map of properties that have received Housing Rehabilitation Program funds overlaid on the 1997-1998 data could indicate progress in addressing substandard housing or reveal that these properties remain in substandard condition. Since the Housing Rehabilitation Program has been in place for 30 years, it may be most cost effective to begin with the most recent 5 or 10 year period, or even to begin mapping Program recipients from this point forward.

FIGURE 3-3
Mifflin County



Legend

Federal Roads	Parcels	D-10	D-50	D-90
State Roads	A to D+	D-20	D-60	D-99
Municipalities	GRADE D	D-30	D-70	
		D-40	D-80	

Mifflin County Housing Grades: D to D - 99 Substandard Housing

Provided By:
Mifflin Co. Planning & Development Dept.
Mifflin Co. Assessment Data
Parcels Intended For Reference Only
Not Intended As A Legal Document

RECENT TRENDS IN HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department tracks building permits for various construction activities. Data from 2001 to 2010 show that new home construction totaling 1,247 units exceeded the housing unit increase of 792 units reported by the census. Thus new homes more than replaced those lost to conversion or demolition.

Residential construction was active in the early 2000s when the economy was growing and developers were accelerating construction in anticipation of the costs of the Uniform Construction Code adopted in 2004. Thereafter, residential construction declined and later, when the economic recession took effect, residential permits fell below 100 permits per year for all of Mifflin County.

Recent housing development has been concentrated in municipalities along the Route 322 corridor, suggesting demand for intercounty access.

Table 3-15 Residential Building Permits Issued, 2001-2013

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2001-10 Total	2011	2012	2013	2011- 13 Total
Mifflin County	140	156	184	151	123	137	120	97	64	75	1,247	50	67	83	200
Armagh Township	20	19	22	19	14	16	16	10	5	-	141	4	6	6	16
Bratton Township	5	3	6	8	4	6	3	4	3	-	42	4	2	3	9
Brown Township	16	16	24	24	19	22	4	19	10	8	162	3	9	5	17
Burnham Borough	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	-	3	16	1	-	1	2
Decatur Township	22	18	20	16	6	9	12	7	4	10	124	14	9	8	31
Derry Township	17	25	22	18	16	12	25	11	14	13	173	7	4	15	26
Granville Township	23	25	28	21	17	25	23	11	8	11	192	4	13	17	34
Juniata Terrace Borough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
Kistler Borough	-	-	-	1	2	1	3	3	-	-	10	-	-	-	0
Lewistown Borough	3	3	3	5	-	2	2	-	-	4	22	2	-	6	8
McVeytown Borough	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	0
Menno Township	-	5	9	1	7	3	5	5	-	9	44	-	3	3	6
Newton Hamilton Borough	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Oliver Township	15	17	9	10	6	14	7	12	13	11	114	1	4	8	13
Union Township	6	12	15	14	7	11	4	4	4	5	82	3	7	6	16
Wayne Township	12	11	25	12	20	11	13	9	3	1	117	7	10	5	22
Planning Regions															
Northwest	6	17	24	15	14	14	9	9	4	14	126	3	10	9	22
Northeast	36	35	46	43	33	38	20	29	15	8	303	7	15	11	33
Southwest	12	11	25	13	23	13	17	12	3	1	130	7	10	5	22
SW Central	20	20	15	19	11	22	11	16	16	11	161	5	6	11	22
S Central	44	55	54	45	36	41	51	24	22	31	403	14	17	39	70
Southeast	22	18	20	16	6	9	12	7	4	10	124	14	9	8	31

Source: Mifflin County Planning and Development Department

Throughout this changing tide, the US 322 corridor remained the fastest growing area of the County. Armagh, Brown, Derry, Decatur, and Granville Townships issued the majority of all residential permits annually across the decade. Granville Township had the greatest residential growth over the 10-year period with 192 permits issued for housing construction. Juniata Terrace Borough had none.

Since 2010, the number of issued residential building permits has remained below 100 per year, but the totals are rising as the economy improves. Townships in the 322 corridor have continued to lead housing growth across the County, while the boroughs have seen little residential construction.

PUBLIC/ASSISTED HOUSING AND OTHER ELDERLY HOUSING

Public housing and housing assistance for the elderly and the general population totaled 522 units and assistance to 197 voucher holders in 2013, which affects less than 4 percent of all housing in the County.

Of the 279 units of public housing, 166 units are for elderly and 113 units for families. In addition, the Housing Authority owns a USDA subsidized development for the elderly which consists of 40 units and has 6 additional non-subsidized units for the elderly. The majority of units in Lewistown were in multi-family buildings, while all units in Derry Township were single family dwellings.

There were also 326 privately owned units for low and moderate income households: 85 assisted housing units for families and 241 for elderly in Mifflin County (Table 3-16). These units were constructed under public programs, e. g. the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program, and include Mann Edge Terrace completed in 2012.

Housing assistance is available for 825 units or 4% of households.

While there were 220 Housing Choice Vouchers in 2013, the Mifflin County Housing Authority had only enough funding to assist 197 low income households with rental housing on the private market. Of these, 44 units were occupied by elderly residents (62 years of age or older) and 62 units were occupied by families (non-elderly) with at least one minor in the household. The remaining 91 units were occupied by single, non-elderly individuals with no minor children in the household. It's likely the majority of these individuals received a disability income.

Table 3-16 Privately Owned, Public Assistance Housing

Facilities	Units/Location	Household Type
Big Valley Apartments	12 units in Brown Twp	General Occupancy
Taylor Park II (aka Brown Apts.)	20 units in Brown Twp	General Occupancy
Partcheytown Road	1 unit in Derry Twp	General Occupancy
Mann Edge Terrace	31 units in Lewistown	Elderly
Kish Apartments	141 units in Lewistown	Elderly
Mt Rock Commons	41 units in Lewistown	Elderly
McVeytown Apartments	16 units in Oliver Twp	General Occupancy
Rothrock School Apartments	28 units in Oliver Twp	Elderly
Belleville Commons	36 units in Union Twp	General Occupancy
Total	326 units	

Source: Diana Myers and Associates

Table 3-17 Retirement and Nursing Care Facilities

Facilities	Location	Capacity/Service
Elm Croft	Reedsville	72 personal care beds
Golden Living Center – William Penn	Lewistown	121 beds intermediate and skilled care
Malta Home (operated by Valley View Haven)	Granville Township	40 beds skilled care 15 retirement cottages
Meadowview Manor Personal Care Retirement Home	Wayne Township	52 beds personal care
Ohesson Manor	Lewistown	104 beds skilled care, 30 beds dementia unit 32 residential cottages
Valley View Retirement Community	Belleville	95 beds personal care 122 beds skilled care 118 residential cottages

Source: Diana Myers and Associates

Qualified housing options for the Housing Choice Voucher program are concentrated in the Greater Lewistown area near other available assistance services. Residents needing housing assistance may have to relocate from rural areas of the County, however they will find daily needs in close proximity to these housing locations.

In addition to the housing assistance administered by the Housing Authority, there are at least six facilities in Mifflin County for the elderly and people with disabilities, including nursing homes, personal care homes and continuing care communities (Table 3-17).

All are operated by private organizations. Meadowview Retirement Home (Wayne Township) has capacity for 52 persons. Valley View Retirement Community (Union Township) has 118 duplex units; 95 beds for assisted living; and a 122-bed skilled care facility. Ohesson Manor (Derry Township) has 32 residential cottages units for unassisted living and a 134-bed nursing home. Malta Home (Granville Township) has 15 residential cottages and 40 nursing home beds. The Golden Living Center (William Penn in Lewistown) is a nursing home only with 121 beds. Elm Croft (Brown Township) has capacity for 72 persons in assisted facilities. Non-assisted living units total 165; assisted and skilled care beds total 636.

HOUSING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS

Relatively few housing units were physically accessible. As shown in the population analysis, 4,181 individuals over 5 years old, or nearly 10 percent of the County's population, had ambulatory difficulty (difficulty walking). The 2011 Quality of Life Survey results indicated 1 in 8 households had a handicapped household member. Further, one in three respondents (34 percent) reported a need to encourage handicapped accessible housing in the County.

Stakeholders reported that because of the age of the housing stock, there was very little accessible housing in the County. Only 28 public housing units were wheelchair accessible, and 30 privately owned, publically assisted housing were accessible. Data was not available on the number of accessible units in the overall private market. This has made it difficult to transition young people with disabilities and the elderly people from special facilities into the mainstream community. It also contributes to the demand by elderly households for public and assisted housing where accessible units, although limited, were available.

In addition, other special populations have specific housing needs. The low income and working poor need affordable housing for security and stability. This group may include veterans who need housing options affordable to their income, which is sometimes limited to their pension, as they return to their home community after service. Persons with mental illness and intellectual disabilities on fixed incomes, typically 26-45 year old individuals, need studio or small rental apartments that meet code, are eligible for subsidies, and are located in proximity to daily services – grocery store, laundromat, pharmacy, entertainment and transportation services – such as in Lewistown. Residents transitioning from youth services to adult services, typically 18-24 year olds, need similar independent, affordable housing, such as studio or small rental apartments.

Human service agencies have aggressively created new housing opportunities for people with disabilities and for homeless individuals. The Juniata Valley Behavioral & Developmental Services operates a Master Leasing Program for people with mental illness. Under this program, Shelter Services, a local provider agency, enters into leases with landlords and subleases these units to individuals with mental illness. Shelter Services provides case management and other services to assist these individuals to maintain their tenancy and provides the landlords with a point of contact if any needs arise. As of late 2013, Shelter Services had 14 units under lease across Huntingdon, Juniata, and Mifflin Counties. Most of the units were in Lewistown. Current funding covers the leases but does not cover administrative costs.

The Mifflin County Office of Human Services in collaboration with Shelter Services is developing nine units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals funded through the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care. These units will provide a new housing resource for individuals who have extended histories of homelessness and also have a disabling condition.

The Mifflin County Office of Veterans Affairs noted anecdotally that access to housing is not a widespread issue among veterans in the County, however there are veterans who need both short term and long term housing assistance. Veteran access to housing may be an issue to follow in the coming years through interviews or surveys that ask about housing needs and challenges. If a need is identified, the County may want to explore the use of housing assistance programs and funds directed toward service men and women.

HOUSING ISSUES

Previous sections of this chapter have pointed to several housing issues.

- Older homes in need of repair, update or significant rehabilitation dominate the housing stock.
- Multi-family rental units are highly concentrated in the Greater Lewistown area, however few offer modern living for moderate to upper income single-person and family households.
- A significant number of households spend more than 30 percent of their income for housing. Prospective first-time homebuyers are challenged by higher standards for financing.

- Some portion of the aging population of small households is looking to downsize into smaller and often one-story homes. At the same time, other older County residents wish to age in place, i.e. remain in their homes, which may be in need of modification or rehabilitation to accommodate the needs of elderly residents.
- Special populations have specific housing needs:
 - The low income and working poor need affordable housing.
 - Persons with mental illness and intellectual disabilities on fixed incomes need studio or small rental apartments that meet code, are eligible for subsidies, and are located in proximity to daily services.
 - Residents transitioning from youth services to adult services (18-24 year old) need independent, affordable housing, such as studio or small rental apartments.
- From 2000-2010, owner-occupancy declined and the vacancy rate among year-round housing units increased, especially in Lewistown Borough. Both may be attributable in part to the economic recession and slow recovery. Among stakeholders, this raised a need for training or counseling on household budgeting, homeowner and renter preparedness for housing responsibilities, and a stronger case for leasing that legally establishes the responsibilities of the landlord and the tenant.
- Realtors and others added that in addition to the housing stock itself, prospective residents are deterred by:
 - the limited availability of homes in proximity to schools and parks,
 - the limited availability of public sewer and natural gas service,
 - the limited availability of public transportation,
 - the quality and organizational structure of the school district,
 - the narrow availability of social and leisure activities, and
 - municipal tax rates.

Stakeholders also reported that the Route 322 corridor offers good access to employment, shopping and entertainment in State College and Harrisburg as well as access to Interstates 76 (PA Turnpike), 80 and 81 and the Harrisburg International Airport for farther destinations.

HOUSING PROJECTIONS

The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department projected that residential building permit activity by municipality in this decade, 2010-2020, would be similar to second half of the 2000-2010 decade and would conservatively decline in the 2020-2030 decade (Table 3-18). This projection reflects an increase of almost 900 homes or 4.1 percent housing growth rate for the County for the 2010-2020 decade and another 600 homes or a 2.7 percent housing growth rate for the 2020-2030 decade. The rate of housing growth in each municipality is projected to vary from the County rate with the largest increases in the Northeast and South Central planning regions as they continue to benefit from the access provided by US Route 322.

Table 3-18 Housing Unit Projections by Municipality and Planning Regions

	Census Counts			Projections		
	2000	2010	2020	Change 2010-20	2030	Change 2020-30
Mifflin County	20,745	21,537	22,426	889	23,027	601
Armagh Township	1,956	2,046	2,135	89	2,195	60
Bratton Township	605	660	684	24	700	16
Brown Township	1,523	1,721	1,878	157	1,984	106
Burnham Borough	983	934	947	13	956	9
Decatur Township	1,273	1,301	1,370	69	1,417	47
Derry Township	3,161	3,243	3,382	139	3,476	94
Granville Township	2,110	2,345	2,470	125	2,555	85
Juniata Terrace Borough	233	252	252	0	252	0
Kistler Borough	141	140	147	7	152	5
Lewistown Borough	4,516	4,345	4,357	12	4,365	8
McVeytown Borough	182	168	172	4	175	3
Menno Township	551	586	635	49	668	33
Newton Hamilton Borough	114	100	101	1	102	1
Oliver Township	962	994	1,081	87	1,140	59
Union Township	1,242	1,357	1,409	52	1,444	35
Wayne Township	1,230	1,345	1,406	61	1,447	41
Planning Regions						
Northwest	1,793	1,943	2,044	101	2,112	68
Northeast	3,479	3,767	4,013	246	4,179	166
Southwest	1,485	1,585	1,654	69	1,701	47
SW Central	1,749	1,822	1,937	115	2,015	78
S Central	11,003	11,119	11,408	289	11,603	195
Southeast	1,273	1,301	1,370	69	1,417	47

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2000 and 2010; Mifflin County Planning and Development Department

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CHAPTER 4 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

The economy of Mifflin County is an important consideration for the Comprehensive Plan. The changes that occur in the structure of the local economy influence the quality of life as well as the standard of living in Mifflin County and will impact future population changes. When the economy prospers, residents and communities thrive and new residents are attracted to the County. When the economy falters, some residents—particularly young adults—may be tempted to move to other areas where they perceive that better employment opportunities exist. In addition, the business sector plays an important role in determining the type and quality of public services required and desired.

EMPLOYMENT

Data obtained from Local Employment Dynamics, a voluntary partnership between state labor market information agencies and the U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, was analyzed to quantify the changes in employment levels from 2002 to 2010 (Tables 4-1 and 4-2).

From 2002 to 2006, Mifflin County saw its employment levels increase by almost 15.44 percent. This growth was much higher than growth in Pennsylvania (3.46 percent) and the surrounding region: Centre County (1.06 percent), Juniata County (1.15 percent), Snyder County (2.16 percent), and Union County (1.80 percent).

Job growth in the early 2000s was strong; the recession set the job growth back by at least three years.

Table 4-1 Change in Employment 2002 to 2010

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
All Jobs 2002	5,205,995	13,613	61,889	12,078	6,376	15,272	15,510
All Jobs 2003	5,138,985	14,477	59,991	11,418	6,382	15,572	16,020
All Jobs 2004	5,199,072	14,819	61,010	11,785	6,426	14,645	15,549
All Jobs 2005	5,280,926	15,520	62,748	12,484	6,465	15,049	14,657
All Jobs 2006	5,386,797	15,831	62,486	12,501	6,301	15,559	15,712
All Jobs 2007	5,458,610	15,610	63,301	12,548	6,279	14,739	15,836
All Jobs 2008	5,459,162	15,378	48,342	13,326	5,866	14,319	14,656
All Jobs 2009	5,318,588	14,521	59,097	12,041	5,562	13,600	14,979
All Jobs 2010	5,346,617	15,508	62,207	11,566	5,064	15,559	14,566

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce

Table 4-2 Percent Change in Employment 2002 to 2010

	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
All Jobs 2002-03	-1.28%	6.35%	-3.07%	-5.46%	0.09%	1.96%	3.29%
All Jobs 2003-04	1.17%	2.36%	1.70%	3.21%	0.69%	-5.95%	-2.94%
All Jobs 2004-05	1.57%	4.73%	2.85%	5.93%	0.61%	2.76%	-5.74%
All Jobs 2005-06	2.00%	2.00%	-0.42%	0.14%	-2.54%	3.39%	7.19%
All Jobs 2006-07	1.33%	-1.40%	1.30%	0.38%	-0.35%	-5.27%	0.79%
All Jobs 2007-08	0.01%	-1.49%	-23.63%	6.20%	-6.58%	-2.84%	-7.45%
All Jobs 2008-09	-2.58%	-5.57%	22.25%	-9.64%	-5.18%	-5.02%	2.20%
All Jobs 2009-10	1.33%	6.95%	5.50%	-3.94%	-8.66%	14.40%	7.66%

Source: Delta Development Group, Inc.

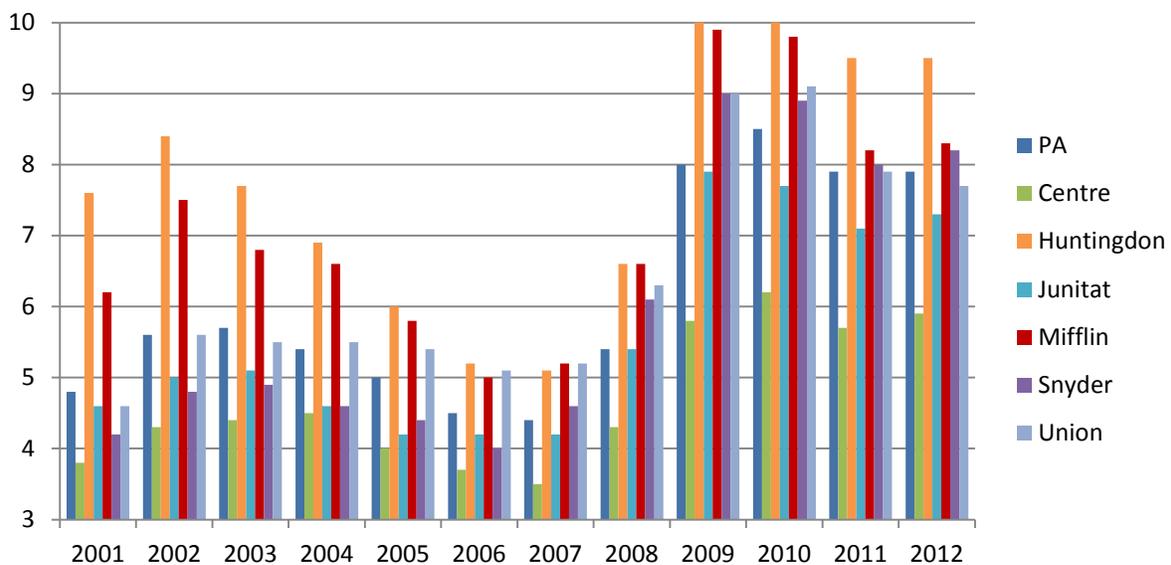
During the next three years (2007-2009), employment levels in Mifflin County decreased by 8.67 percent. The economic downturn in 2007 may have contributed to the loss in jobs. Pennsylvania (-1.24 percent) and all counties in the Region followed the same trend. Centre County had the smallest decrease in employment (-0.62 percent), followed by Huntingdon County (-2.82 percent). Union County lost 4.62 percent, while Juniata County and Snyder County suffered the greatest losses (-12.00 percent and -13.04 percent, respectively).

By 2010, employment in Pennsylvania and a few of the Region’s counties began to rebound. Mifflin County’s employment levels increased by 6.79 percent, and Union County by 7.66 percent, but were outpaced by Snyder County (14.40 percent). Huntingdon County and Juniata County continued to experience decreases in their employment levels.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Data from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry show slightly different figures but a similar comparative trend between the county and the state rates (Figure 4-1). The department reported annual unemployment rates of 8.3 percent for Mifflin County and 7.9 percent for Pennsylvania in 2012. Mifflin County rates have consistently been higher than the state rates since 2001. Only Huntingdon County has had higher annual employment rates in 11 of the past 12 years. By February 2014, unemployment in Mifflin County dropped to 7.4, compared to the state’s 6.7 percent.

Figure 4-1 Annual Unemployment Rates (Not seasonally Adjusted), 2001-2012



Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

Mifflin County's unemployment rates have been consistently higher than the state and most regional rates since 2001.

MAJOR EMPLOYMENT INDUSTRIES

According to 2-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) data from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, manufacturing was the largest industry group in the County with 4,128 total jobs in 2010 (Table 4-4). This represented almost 27 percent of the total jobs in Mifflin County. The health care and social assistance industry group consisted of 2,902 jobs during this same time period. Other industry groups with more than 1,000 total jobs in the County in 2010 were retail trade (2,081 jobs), educational services (1,664 jobs), and accommodation and food services (1,168 jobs).

SECTORS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

The following data was obtained from Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, and represents data from 2006 (Table 4-3) to 2010 (Table 4-4). The trend is analyzed in Table 4-5.

In 2010, manufacturing remained the largest sector of economic activity representing 26.58 percentage of employment in Mifflin County. Manufacturing employment across the state totaled 10.69 percent of all employment. Although manufacturing employment declined in Mifflin County (-1.15 percent), it did not decline at the same rate as the state (-14.34 percent), and surrounding counties of Huntingdon (-38.87 percent), Juniata (-16.83 percent), and Union (-48.17 percent).

Success stories in the County's manufacturing sector include the addition of First Quality. Expansions include Asher's Chocolate, Pennsylvania Insulated Glass, Ram-Wood Custom Kitchens, United Chemical Technologies, Trinity Plastics Corporation, Rohrer Corporation (formerly Buckell Plastic Company), JRD Packaging, and Clayton Manufactured Homes.

GROWING EMPLOYMENT SECTORS

In percentage terms, the fastest growing employment sectors in the Mifflin County economy between 2006 and 2010 (Table 4-5) were:

- Administration and Support, Waste Management and Remediation (54.55 percent)
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (32.91 percent)
- Accommodation and Food Services (14.17 percent)

Smaller growth occurred in the health care and social assistance sector (5.18 percent), and the finance and insurance sector (4.98 percent). Growth in these sectors was not regional; changes in sector employment varied widely from growth to decline in other counties.

DECLINING EMPLOYMENT SECTORS

The information sector and wholesale trade sector both showed significant losses in employment levels from 2006 to 2010. The information sector experienced a 26.29 percent loss, and more significantly, the wholesale trade sector experienced a 34.99 percent reduction. Mifflin County's public administration sector also declined during the period of 2006 to 2010 by 11.01 percent. This decline was comparable to Centre County (14.80 percent) and much lower than Juniata County (25.29 percent), and Snyder

County (22.40 percent). Manufacturing declined by 1.15, ranking second to Snyder County's 0.06 percent gain and markedly better than Pennsylvania's 14.34 percent loss.

Table 4-5 highlights industry sectors that performed better in the County than the Commonwealth from 2006 (Table 4-3) to 2010 (Table 4-4):

- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
- Manufacturing
- Finance and Insurance
- Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation
- Accommodation and Food Services
- Other Services (excluding Public Administration)

The County outperformed the state in six industry sectors from 2006 to 2010.

In other sectors, employment change declined in the County while it grew for the state:

- Construction
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
- Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation

RECENT CHANGES IN LOCAL INDUSTRIES

Between 2012 and 2013, General Electric Energy Group, a part of General Electric Corporation, invested more than \$10 million to expand its Inspection Technologies headquarters in Lewistown, Pennsylvania. The expansion project included a new global customer applications center, as well as a nondestructive-testing academy for GE employees and customers. The expansion added 52,000 square feet of floor space and approximately 60 employees once fully operational.

Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd., and Sumitomo Corporation purchased Standard Steel, LLC, in 2011. The transaction was valued at \$340 million and has positioned the company for future expansion.

Table 4-3 – Sector Employment, 2006

Jobs by Industry Type (2-digit NAICS)	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	21,800	79	143	169	105	99	54
Mining	19,497	0	96	77	0	36	9
Utilities	28,910	65	211	129	21	143	65
Construction	251,048	490	3,317	599	453	605	723
Manufacturing	667,298	4,176	4,287	2,166	2,288	3,427	2,848
Wholesale Trade	236,010	703	1,052	339	214	1,195	312
Retail Trade	633,748	2,212	7,169	1,262	631	2,621	1,792
Transportation and Warehousing	213,042	646	1,319	248	475	240	250
Information	108,667	213	1,113	124	36	134	95
Finance and Insurance	267,423	422	1,193	397	228	242	364
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	66,842	77	928	64	25	119	136
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	311,630	167	3,538	188	39	218	379
Management of Companies and Enterprises	95,788	54	1,029	0	15	15	201
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	262,850	165	1,590	236	47	297	325
Educational Services	512,506	1,639	18,519	1,733	389	1,698	2,474
Health Care and Social Assistance	834,562	2,759	6,583	1,408	545	2,103	3,262
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	73,598	66	492	149	50	94	56
Accommodation and Food Services	397,569	1,023	5,530	834	388	1,485	1,743
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	188,847	139	1,668	397	178	346	357
Public Administration	195,162	436	2,709	1,982	174	442	267
Total	5,386,797	15,831	62,486	12,501	6,301	15,559	15,712

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 4-4 – Sector Employment, 2010

Jobs by Industry Type (2-digit NAICS)	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	21,238	105	120	204	135	174	83
Mining	24,587	0	300	79	0	30	9
Utilities	31,957	67	228	117	20	155	40
Construction	209,564	380	3,467	627	333	499	644
Manufacturing	571,623	4,128	3,928	1,324	1,903	3,429	1,476
Wholesale Trade	223,909	457	1,029	296	166	1,005	328
Retail Trade	611,496	2,081	6,639	1,178	541	2,693	1,649
Transportation and Warehousing	212,902	599	1,251	275	361	241	366
Information	103,042	157	1,052	96	32	117	96
Finance and Insurance	272,377	443	1,279	395	208	226	392
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	57,909	53	872	67	21	85	147
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	315,765	149	3,458	202	26	297	363
Management of Companies and Enterprises	123,210	62	835	20	22	10	180
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	261,052	255	1,519	234	66	268	231
Educational Services	531,513	1,664	18,729	1,763	4	1,716	2,545
Health Care and Social Assistance	929,369	2,902	6,908	1,545	559	2,285	3,559
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	77,049	61	573	108	26	122	77
Accommodation and Food Services	408,640	1,168	5,891	876	352	1,544	1,803
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	182,701	411	1,923	340	168	320	288
Public Administration	176,714	366	2,206	1,820	121	343	290
Total	5,346,617	15,508	6,207	11,566	5,064	15,559	14,566

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 4-5– Percent Change in Sector Employment, 2006 to 2010

Jobs by Industry Type (2-digit NAICS)	Pennsylvania	Mifflin	Centre	Huntingdon	Juniata	Snyder	Union
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	-2.58%	32.91%	-16.08%	20.71%	28.57%	75.76%	53.70%
Mining	26.11%	0.00%	212.50%	2.60%	0.00%	-16.67%	0.00%
Utilities	10.54%	3.08%	8.06%	-9.30%	-4.76%	8.39%	38.46%
Construction	16.52%	-22.45%	4.52%	4.67%	-26.49%	-17.52%	-10.93%
Manufacturing	-14.34	-1.15	-8.37	-38.87	-16.83	.06	-48.17
Wholesale Trade	-5.13%	-34.99%	-2.19%	-12.68%	-22.43%	-15.90%	5.13%
Retail Trade	-3.51%	-5.92%	-7.39%	-6.66%	-14.26%	2.75%	-7.98%
Transportation and Warehousing	-0.07%	-7.28%	-5.16%	10.89%	-24.00%	0.42%	46.40%
Information	-5.18%	-26.29%	-5.48%	-22.58%	-11.11%	-12.69%	1.05%
Finance and Insurance	1.85%	4.98%	7.21%	-0.50%	-8.77%	-6.61%	7.69%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	-13.36%	-31.17%	-6.03%	4.69%	-16.00%	-28.57%	8.09%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1.33%	-10.78%	-2.26%	7.45%	-33.33%	36.24%	-4.22%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	28.63%	14.81%	-18.85%	0.00%	46.67%	-33.33%	-10.45%
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	-0.68%	54.55%	-4.47%	-0.85%	40.43%	-9.76%	-28.92%
Educational Services	3.71%	1.53%	1.13%	1.73%	-98.97%	1.06%	2.87%
Health Care and Social Assistance	11.36%	5.18%	4.94%	9.73%	2.57%	8.65%	9.10%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	4.69%	-7.58%	16.46%	-27.52%	-48.00%	29.79%	37.50%
Accommodation and Food Services	2.78%	14.17%	6.53%	5.04%	-9.28%	3.97%	3.44%
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	-3.25%	195.68%	15.29%	-14.36%	-5.62%	-7.51%	-19.33%
Public Administration	-9.45%	-16.06%	-18.57%	-8.17%	-30.46%	-22.40%	8.61%

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau; Delta Development Group

ECONOMIC BASE

The economic base of a given area includes all industries that produce at least part of their output for export, or consumption outside of the area. These industries are important because their sales determine the income available for growth and for the consumption of items not produced locally.

“Export” sales by local industries are determined by the concentration of that industry in the local area. This concentration is measured, somewhat crudely based on employment figures, by a ratio called the location quotient (LQ). To calculate the LQ for each industry, the percentage of local employment in a given industry is compared to the percentage of national employment in that industry by the ratio:

$$\text{LQ}_i = \frac{\% \text{ of total local employment in industry } i}{\% \text{ of national employment in industry } i}$$

When the local industry employs the same percentage locally as nationally, the industry is said to be locally self-sufficient and the area neither imports nor exports the products of that industry and the LQ is exactly 1.0. When the LQ is below 1.0, the area must import some of the products of that industry that it consumes locally. If the LQ for an industry is 0.0, e.g. citrus production in central PA, all of the consumed product must be imported.

When the LQ is above 1.0, the portion above 1.0 is presumably exported to other parts of the national or global economy. These industries are considered part of the economic base and the portion of their employment above 1.0 is said to be “basic” employment. The assumption is that basic employment produces goods or services for sale to other areas and generates income for the area in proportion to the basic employment.

Depending on the mix of industries in the economic base, an area’s economy may be healthy, stable, or declining. If a local area is highly concentrated in one industry, or just a few industries, its economy is highly dependent on that narrow economic base. When the area is heavily dependent on industries that are declining nationally (even if the local firms in those industries are stable or growing), it is “at risk” because decline could strike local firms at any time. If an area has several or many industries in its economic base, it is less dependent upon the fortunes of any one of those industries.

Jobs by 2-digit NAICS industry type (2010) for Mifflin County are listed in Table 4-6.

The economic base is the industry or industries that produce goods and service for export, resulting in incoming revenue to the community.

Table 4-6 Location Quotients of Mifflin County Industries, 2010

Jobs by Industry Type (2-digit NAICS)	Mifflin County		Pennsylvania		LQ
	Employment	% of Total	Employment	% of Total	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	105	0.68%	21,238	0.39%	1.7
Mining	-	0.0%	24,587	0.46%	0.0
Utilities	67	0.43%	31,957	0.59%	0.7
Construction	380	2.45%	209,564	3.89%	0.6
Manufacturing	4,128	26.58%	571,623	10.61%	2.5
Wholesale Trade	457	2.94%	223,909	4.15%	0.7
Retail Trade	2,081	13.40%	611,496	11.35%	1.2
Transportation and Warehousing	599	3.86%	212,902	3.95%	1.0
Information	157	1.01%	104,411	1.94%	0.5
Finance and Insurance	443	2.85%	272,635	5.06%	0.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	0.34%	57,909	1.07%	0.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	149	0.96%	315,849	5.86%	0.2
Management of Companies and Enterprises	62	0.40%	123,210	2.29%	0.2
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	255	1.64%	261,052	4.84%	0.3
Educational Services	1,664	10.71%	531,513	9.86%	1.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,902	18.69%	941,184	17.46%	1.1
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	61	0.39%	77,890	1.45%	0.3
Accommodation and Food Services	1,168	7.52%	408,640	7.58%	1.0
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	411	2.65%	182,745	3.39%	0.8
Public Administration	388	2.50%	205,104	3.81%	0.7

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau; Delta Development Group

The manufacturing sector and health care and social assistance sector are the largest sectors in Mifflin County. These two sectors account for approximately 45 percent of the industry base. These sectors are followed by the retail trade sector and the educational services sector, which comprise another 24 percent of the industry base. Together, these our sectors comprise 69 percent of employment in Mifflin County.

While these sectors may be the largest in the County based on the number of the employees, they do not necessarily comprise the economic base or drivers of the County’s economy. Based on the LQs, the following industry sectors in the County are likely exporting goods and services and are key drivers of the Mifflin County economy:

- Manufacturing (LQ 2.5)
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ 1.7)
- Retail Trade (LQ 1.2)
- Health Care and Social Assistance (LQ 1.1)
- Educational Services (LQ 1.1)

DIVERSITY IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR

Employment within Mifflin County’s manufacturing sector is distributed among the following subsectors:

- Fabricated Metal Product (34.7%)
- Plastics and Rubber Products (29.2%)
- Wood Product (20.3%)
- Food (6.0%)
- Transportation Equipment (4.8%)
- Furniture and Related Product (1.0%)
- Nonmetallic Mineral Product (0.8%)
- Printing and Related Support Activities (0.5%)
- Miscellaneous (0.26%)

The County’s manufacturing sector is diversified across more than 8 subsectors.

THE VALUE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Agriculture continues to play a very important role in the County’s economy. Mifflin County covers an area of approximately 264,128 acres. Approximately 94,133 acres are in agricultural use on 1,024 farms according to the USDA 2007 Census of Agriculture. This represents about 36 percent of the County’s total land area. In 2007, the total market value of agricultural production in Mifflin County was \$86,818,000.

The agricultural sector has both economic and environmental value to the County.

The value of Mifflin County’s farmland, however, goes well beyond its production value. Farmland plays a vital environmental role providing habitat for wildlife, aquifer recharge areas, and open space in an increasingly urbanizing county. Farmland gives Mifflin County its scenic character and contributes greatly to its quality of life. Development pressure within the County will continue to change the agricultural landscape in Mifflin County. Leaders will need to decide where growth potential makes sense without destroying this very important industry sector for the County.

TRENDS IN THE RETAIL SECTOR, 2005-2010

The retail sector is the most volatile of the 3 leading industries.

Figures 4-2 and 4-3 illustrate retail business locations in Mifflin County in 2005 and 2010, respectively. Comparison of the data reveals significant retail business opening and closings between 2005 and 2010, as shown in Table 4-7, resulting in a consistent number of retailers (19) in these clusters. With a net loss in the total number of businesses in these clusters, retail comprised a slightly higher percentage of all businesses.

Table 4-7 Trends in Retail Business Activity, 2005-2010

Community	Closings, 2005-10			Openings, 2005-10		
	Retail	Total	Retail as % of Total	Retail	Total	Retail as % of Total
Belleville	4	7	57.1%	4	9	44.4%
Burnham	6	15	40.0%	5	10	50.0%
Lewistown	5	19	26.3%	7	20	35.0%
McVeytown	2	2	100.0%	-	1	-
Milroy	2	6	33.3%	3	7	42.9%
Total	19	49	38.8%	19	47	40.4%

Source: Delta Development Group

Figure 4-2 Mifflin County Retail Business Clusters, 2005

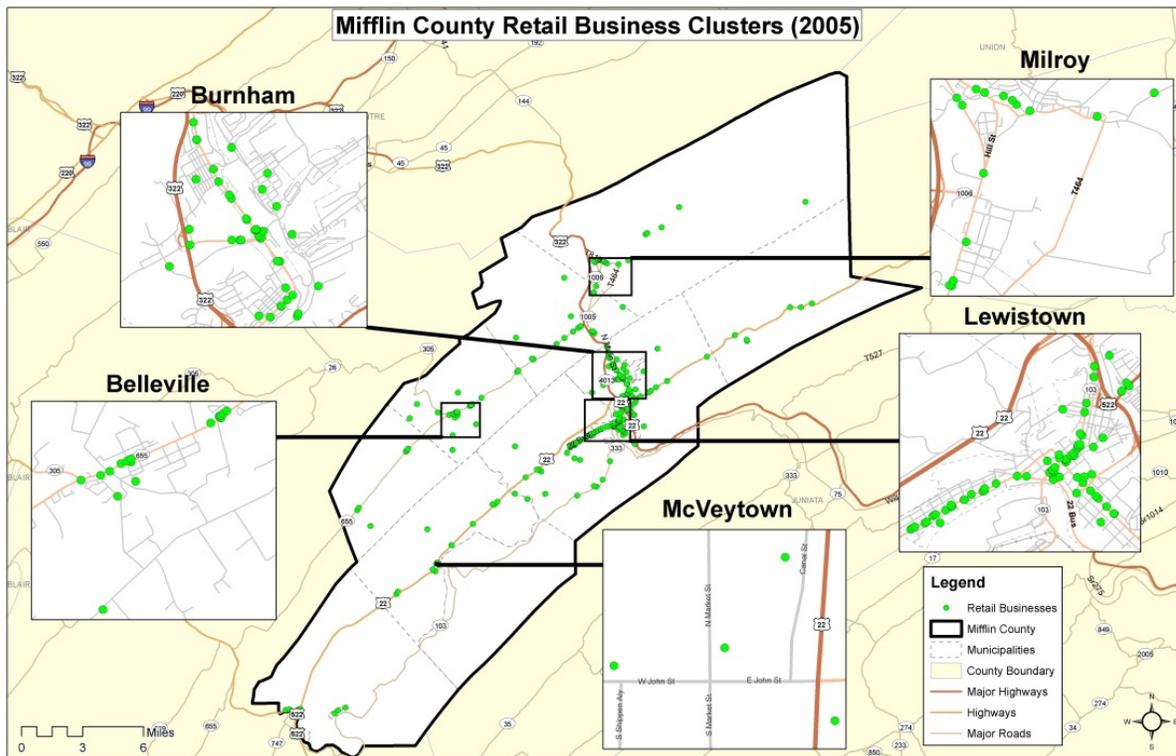
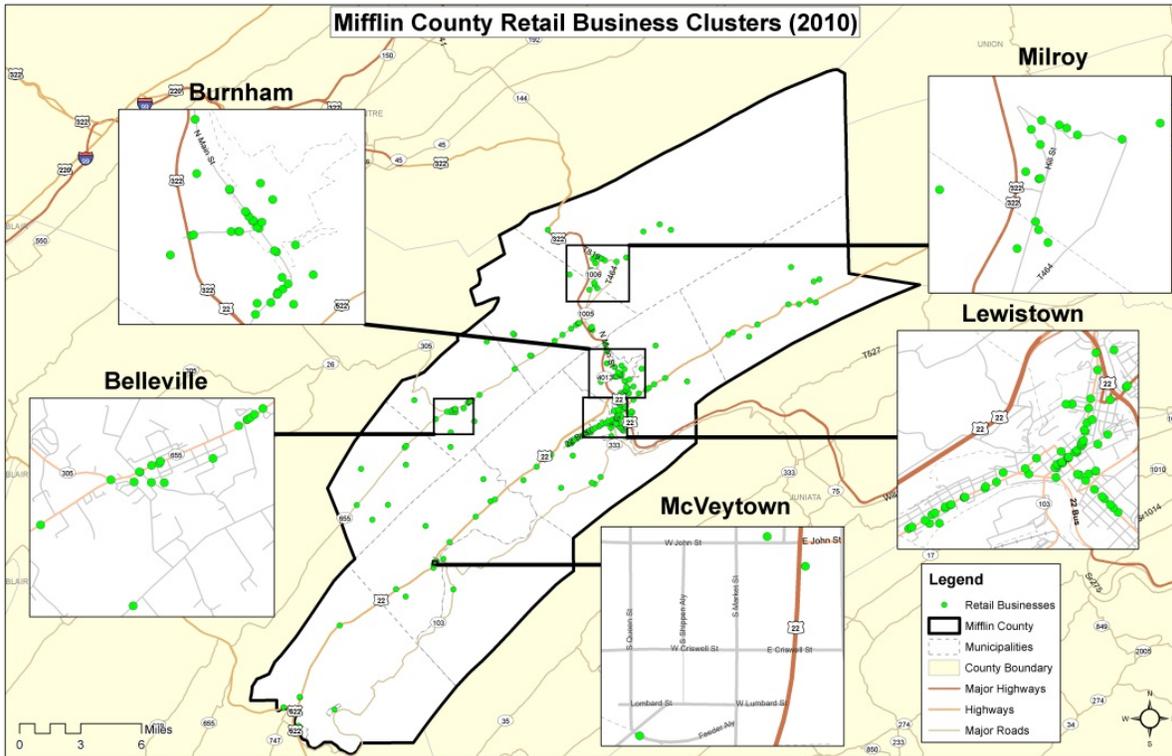


Figure 4-3 Mifflin County Retail Business Clusters, 2010



WORKFORCE ORIGIN-DESTINATION PATTERNS

Data was collected from Local Employment Dynamics and analyzed for 2002 (earliest available), 2006 and 2010 to demonstrate and enable comparison of trends prior to and after the recession (Table 4-8).

Table 4-8 Jobs in Mifflin County, 2002, 2006, and 2010

	2002		2006		2010		2002-2006 Change		2006-2010 Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Jobs, Mifflin County	13,613		15,831		15,530		2,218	16.3%	-301	-1.9%
Primary Jobs	13,018	95.6%	14,967	94.5%	14,724	94.8%	1,949	15.0%	-243	-1.6%
Second/Other Jobs	595	4.4%	864	5.5%	806	5.2%	269	45.2%	-58	-6.7%

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

TOTAL JOBS IN MIFFLIN COUNTY

In 2010, there were 15,530 total jobs in Mifflin County; specifically 14,724 primary jobs and 806 second and other jobs. Total jobs reflect all jobs held by the workers of the specified geography. A primary job is defined as the one job for each worker that provides the most earnings.

Of persons in the 15,530 total jobs, 9,360 (60.3 percent) lived and worked in Mifflin County and 6,170 (39.7 percent) were employed in Mifflin County, but lived elsewhere. Huntingdon, Juniata, and Centre County provided 16.1 percent of the total workforce employed in Mifflin County.

From 2006 to 2010, Mifflin County imported a greater percentage of its workforce. In 2006, 31 percent of those employed in Mifflin County did not reside in the County; as of 2010, this percentage increased to 39.7 percent. Although Mifflin County has continued a gradual pattern of increasing its non-resident workforce, the surrounding counties are depending on a much larger nonresident workforce. In fact, Snyder County and Union County imported almost 60 percent of their workforce.

TRENDS IN THE PRIMARY JOB WORKFORCE IN MIFFLIN COUNTY

After significant gains in primary jobs from 2002 to 2006, Mifflin County lost 243 primary jobs from 2006 to 2010. Table 4-9 presents data related to the following primary job trends.

- The distribution of jobs among County residents and nonresident workers remained stable – 69.0 percent and 31.0 percent, respectively – from 2002 to 2006. But from 2006 to 2010, employers in the County imported a greater percentage of the workforce each year, 2009 excepted. By 2010, 39.4 percent of the workforce commuted into the County for primary jobs.
- Throughout the decade, primary jobs shifted from young workers to older workers. Workers in primary jobs aged 55 and older increased by 41.2 percent from 2002 to 2006, while younger workers increased by less than 10 percent. From 2006 to 2010, the oldest age group was the only age group to increase its participation in the workforce. Workers age 30 to 54 remained the largest segment of the workforce at 56.3 percent, similar to the regional average of 56.8 percent.
- Primary jobs also steadily shifted from lower paying jobs to higher paying jobs. The number of primary job workers earning \$15,000 or less per year fell by 747, while the number of workers earning \$40,000 or more increased by 2,052—more than doubling. In addition, more of these higher paying jobs were held by non-residents in 2010 than in 2002 or 2006.
- Again, the largest percentage of the workforce, 47.7 percent, earned the middle value, between \$15,000 and \$40,000 per year. This was true regionally, expect for Centre County, where 40.0 percent earning \$40,000 or more per year.

In recent years, primary jobs (the job earning the most for each worker) have trended toward non-residents, older workers, and services industries.

Table 4-9 Workforce in Primary Jobs in Mifflin County, 2002, 2006, and 2010

	2002		2006		2010		2002-2006 Change		2006-2010 Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed in Mifflin County (MC)	13,018		14,967		14,724		1,949	15.0%	-243	-1.6%
<i>Living in MC</i>	8,962	68.8%	10,332	69.0%	8,918	60.6%	1,370	15.3%	-1,414	-13.7%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	4,056	31.2%	4,635	31.0%	5,806	39.4%	579	14.3%	1,171	25.3%
<i>Huntingdon County, PA</i>	596	4.6%	526	3.5%	967	6.6%	-70	-11.7%	441	83.8%
<i>Juniata County, PA</i>	488	3.7%	558	3.7%	772	5.2%	70	14.3%	214	38.4%
<i>Centre County, PA</i>	468	3.6%	576	3.8%	645	4.4%	108	23.1%	69	12.0%
<i>Snyder County, PA</i>	125	1.0%	219	1.5%	281	1.9%	94	75.2%	62	28.3%
<i>Cumberland County, PA</i>	83	0.6%	204	1.4%	266	1.8%	121	145.8%	62	30.4%
<i>York County, PA</i>	151	1.2%	153	1.0%	205	1.4%	2	1.3%	52	34.0%
<i>Blair County, PA</i>	156	1.2%	176	1.2%	176	1.2%	20	12.8%	0	0.0%
<i>Dauphin County, PA</i>	144	1.1%	141	0.9%	152	1.0%	-3	-2.1%	11	7.8%
<i>Perry County, PA</i>	75	0.6%	74	0.5%	127	0.9%	-1	-1.3%	53	71.6%
<i>All Other Locations</i>	1,770	13.6%	2,008	13.4%	2,215	15.0%	238	13.4%	207	10.3%
Aged 29 or younger	2,954	22.7%	3,219	21.5%	3,018	20.5%	265	9.0%	-201	-6.2%
<i>Living in MC</i>	1,866	63.2%	2,090	64.9%	1,710	56.7%	224	12.0%	-380	-18.2%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	1,088	36.8%	1,129	35.1%	1,308	43.3%	41	3.8%	179	15.9%
Aged 30 to 54	7,799	59.9%	8,549	57.1%	8,290	56.3%	750	9.6%	-259	-3.0%
<i>Living in MC</i>	5,385	69.0%	5,954	69.6%	4,970	60.0%	569	10.6%	-984	-16.5%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	2,414	31.0%	2,595	30.4%	3,320	40.0%	181	7.5%	725	27.9%
Aged 55 and older	2,265	17.4%	3,199	21.4%	3,416	23.2%	934	41.2%	217	6.8%
<i>Living in MC</i>	1,711	75.5%	2,288	71.5%	2,238	65.5%	577	33.7%	-50	-2.2%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	554	24.5%	911	28.5%	1,178	34.5%	357	64.4%	267	29.3%
Earning up to \$15,000/year	4,325	33.2%	4,002	26.7%	3,578	24.3%	-323	-7.5%	-424	-10.6%
<i>Living in MC</i>	2,921	67.5%	2,758	68.9%	2,134	59.6%	-163	-5.6%	-624	-22.6%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	1,404	32.5%	1,244	31.1%	1,444	40.4%	-160	-11.4%	200	16.1%
Earning \$15,001 to \$39,999/year	6,644	51.0%	7,208	48.2%	7,030	47.7%	564	8.5%	-178	-2.5%
<i>Living in MC</i>	4,824	72.6%	5,152	71.5%	4,413	62.8%	328	6.8%	-739	-14.3%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	1,820	27.4%	2,056	28.5%	2,617	37.2%	236	13.0%	561	27.3%
Earning \$40,000 or more/year	2,049	15.7%	3,757	25.1%	4,116	28.0%	1,708	83.4%	359	9.6%
<i>Living in MC</i>	1,217	59.4%	2,422	64.5%	2,371	57.6%	1,205	99.0%	-51	-2.1%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	832	40.6%	1,335	35.5%	1,745	42.4%	503	60.5%	410	30.7%
In "Goods Producing" Industry Class	4,668	35.9%	4,686	31.3%	4,571	31.0%	18		-115	-2.5%
<i>Living in MC</i>	3,758	80.5%	3,695	78.9%	3,314	72.5%	-63	-1.7%	-381	-10.3%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	910	19.5%	991	21.1%	1,257	27.5%	81	8.9%	266	26.8%
In "Trade, Transportation, and Utilities" Industry Class	2,921	22.4%	3,387	22.6%	3,015	20.5%	466	16.0%	-372	-11.0%
<i>Living in MC</i>	1,491	51.0%	1,794	53.0%	1,316	43.6%	303	20.3%	-478	-26.6%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	1,430	49.0%	1,593	47.0%	1,699	56.4%	163	11.4%	106	6.7%
In "All Other Services" Industry Class	5,429	41.7%	6,894	46.1%	7,138	48.5%	1,465	27.0%	244	3.5%
<i>Living in MC</i>	3,713	68.4%	4,843	70.2%	4,288	60.1%	1,130	30.4%	-555	-11.5%
<i>Living elsewhere</i>	1,716	31.6%	2,051	29.8%	2,850	39.9%	335	19.5%	799	39.0%
Travel Distance to Work										
Less than 10 miles	7,997	61.4%	9,048	60.5%	7,980	54.2%	1,051	13.1%	-1,068	-11.8%
10 to 24 miles	2,380	18.3%	2,851	19.0%	3,141	21.3%	471	19.8%	290	10.2%
25 to 50 miles	945	7.3%	1,220	8.2%	1,577	10.7%	275	29.1%	357	29.3%
More than 50 miles	1,696	13.0%	1,848	12.3%	2,026	13.8%	152	9.0%	178	9.6%

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 4-10 Net Job (Worker) Outflow, 2002, 2006 and 2010

Primary Jobs	2002		2006		2010		2002-2006 Change		2006-2010 Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed in Mifflin County	13,018		14,967		14,724		1,949	15.0%	-243	-1.6%
<i>Living Elsewhere</i>	4,056		4,635		5,806		579	14.3%	1,171	25.3%
Living in Mifflin County	15,792		18,295		18,427		2,503	15.8%	132	0.7%
<i>Employed Elsewhere</i>	6,830		7,963		9,506		1,133	16.6%	1,543	19.4%
Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow(-)	-2,774		-3,328		-3,703		-554		-375	

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

- Primary jobs also shifted away from goods production, trade and distribution toward services, and imported workers increased their share of primary jobs in all industry types.
- Regardless of their place of residence, workers are traveling farther to primary jobs. Workers traveling to work 25 miles or more increased more than 38 percent in both the early and later years of the decade.

RESIDENTS WHO LEAVE MIFFLIN COUNTY FOR WORK

In addition to a growing imported workforce, the number of workers living in Mifflin County and commuting outside the County for work (net job outflow) is also growing (Table 4-10). These residents prefer to live in Mifflin County’s small town and rural settings, while they seek to apply their professional skills and aspirations to employers in other locations.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

The annual *Economic Impact of Pennsylvania’s Travel and Tourism Industry* report provides state, regional, and county-level estimates that demonstrate the vital importance of the travel industry to Pennsylvania’s overall economy. The report provides estimates of visitor spending, employment, and earnings derived from traveler spending, the contribution of the travel industry to the Pennsylvania’s gross state product, and tax receipts derived from traveler spending.

Pennsylvania is divided into 11 multi-county tourism regions. Mifflin County, along with Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Juniata Counties comprise the Alleghenies Region.

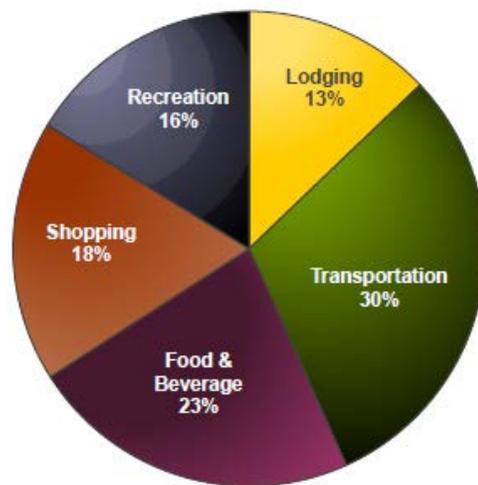
In the Alleghenies Region, visitors spent 1.6 billion in 2010 (Table 4-11). Transportation accounted for the largest percentage of visitor spending (30 percent), followed by food and beverage (23 percent), shopping (18 percent), recreation (16 percent), and lodging (13 percent) (Figure 4-4).

Tourism peaked within the Alleghenies Region and Mifflin County in 2008. During this year, visitors spent \$67.0 million, an increase of more than 10 percent from 2007. The economic downturn in 2008 impacted the tourism industry causing a decrease in 2009 revenues for the Alleghenies Region and Mifflin County in the amounts of 14.2 percent and 19 percent, respectively. The decining trend reversed in 2010, with tourism spending up 8.8 percent in the Alleghenies Region and up 8.0 percent in Mifflin County. Similarly, from 2008 to 2009, Centre County experienced a 16% decrease in tourism spending; Huntingdon County and Juniata County both experienced a 12% decrease. From 2009 to 2010, spending in Centre County increased by 10%, Huntingdon County increased by 12% and Juniata County increased by 7%.

In its peak year, 2008, tourism generated an estimated \$67 million in economic activity for Mifflin County.

Table 4-12 provides information on employment impacts related to the tourism industry. During the period of 2008 to 2010, Huntingdon County fared the best with respect to the tourism industry. Although Huntingdon County experienced a 2% decrease in tourism spending from 2008 to 2010, there was a 2% growth in tourism related jobs during this same time period. Centre County experienced a 2% decrease in employment impacts, Juniata experienced a 13% decrease and Mifflin County experienced a 4% decrease in employment impacts.

Figure 4-4 Tourism Spending in the Alleghenies Region, 2010



Source: Tourism Economics

Table 4-11 Tourism Industry Spending in the Alleghenies Region, 2005-2010

County	Annual Spending in Millions of Dollars					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Bedford	244.2	243.5	259.6	286.0	239.0	263.0
Blair	257.8	260.4	278.1	296.8	249.3	271.2
Cambria	235.2	232.3	244.3	280.9	238.5	257.6
Centre	298.7	511.2	531.4	616.4	545.6	588.7
Fulton	18.8	19.2	20.4	22.4	17.4	19.3
Huntingdon	129.5	125.7	135.3	146.6	129.1	144.1
Juniata	28.0	28.6	30.3	33.4	28.5	31.0
Mifflin	57.6	58.4	60.8	67.0	54.4	58.9
Total The Alleghenies Region	1,469.8	1,479.2	1,560.1	1,749.6	1,501.9	1,633.9
Annual Percent Change – The Alleghenies Region		0.6%	5.5%	12.1%	-14.2%	8.8%
Annual Percent Change – Mifflin County		1.0%	4.0%	10.0%	-19.0%	8.0%

Source: Tourism Economics

Table 4-12 Tourism Industry Employment Impacts, 2005-2010

County	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Bedford	1,993	2,044	2,113	2,151	1,977	2,026
Blair	2,389	2,449	2,512	2,582	2,446	2,499
Cambria	2,190	2,173	2,155	2,109	2,021	2,005
Centre	4,701	4,635	4,657	4,782	4,641	4,705
Fulton	146	148	152	154	143	152
Huntingdon	1,168	1,209	1,224	1,244	1,221	1,273
Juniata	237	240	247	251	239	218
Mifflin	577	588	599	610	567	583
Total The Alleghenies Region	13,400	13,486	13,658	13,883	13,254	13,460
Annual Percent Change – The Alleghenies Region		0.6%	1.3%	1.6%	-4.5%	1.6%
Annual Percent Change – Mifflin County		2.0%	1.0%	2.0%	5.0%	2.0%

Source: Tourism Economics

Mifflin County’s hotel tax has generated \$70,000 to \$80,000 per year in County revenue over the past 10 years.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

Mifflin County has several active economic development organizations.

- Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation (MCIDC), the most active countywide organization in industrial recruitment and business retention.
- Downtown Lewistown Inc.
- The Juniata Valley Chamber, which also provides staff supporting the Mifflin County Tourist Promotion Agency.
- The SEDA-Council of Governments, which provides business financing, business retention, and export assistance.
- The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department administers two revolving loan programs that provide gap financing for economic development projects. These are financed through the CDBG micro-enterprise program and a Revolving Loan Fund from the USDA.
- Penn State Small Business Development Center provides free, confidential consulting services to individuals looking to start or grow a small business. In addition, the SBDC offers a full roster of specialized educational programs covering many business topics.

In addition, Focus Central Pennsylvania provides a centralized location for detailed and up-to-date information and market research on the region. Information on their website includes: site selection data, business resources, regional information, major industry clusters.

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS

The MCIDC and Downtown Lewistown Inc. have partnered to improve the delivery of economic services to Mifflin County. In August of 2012, an application was filed with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to request the County be designated as a Keystone Community. This designation, if awarded by the Commonwealth, would give the County an inside track to the Department of Community and Economic Development funding for all future projects. It provides another tool to secure funds to aid economic development projects throughout the County.

CITIZEN AND STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

CITIZEN PERSPECTIVES AND PERCEPTIONS

The 2011 Quality of Life survey asked residents about their perceptions of the economy and employment opportunities in the County. At 88 percent,

unemployment was among the top three social concerns of respondents. Most respondents rated employment opportunities in their township or borough as poor (54 percent), and similarly employment opportunities countywide as poor (52 percent).

Correspondingly, economic development was ranked the most important community development activity for maintaining the quality of life alongside education. Among the 15 specific economic development activities listed in the survey, increasing employment opportunities (96 percent), small and large business development (92 percent), and workforce training and retraining (87 percent) were the top three priorities for the next five years. These activities and their top ranking have not changed since 1998. Support for family farms, cooperation between municipalities, and community college/university development also sustained their ranks as moderate to high priorities at somewhat smaller majorities. Support for marketing of the area and improving the downtown fell since 1998 but was still considered a moderate to high priority by a majority of respondents.

In response to a separate question, respondents ranked these economic development activities as most important: helping local business expand and stay in the county (86 percent), attracting new industry from outside the county (79 percent), and enhancing small business opportunities (74 percent). As indicated by the survey, resident support for industrial (60 percent), agricultural (58 percent), and commercial/retail (41 percent) land uses in the County increased since 1998, while support for office/professional uses declined slightly (12 percent, down from 15 percent in 1998).

STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES AND PERCEPTIONS

The planning team conducted stakeholder interviews with economic development agencies serving the County and professionals who work in influential sectors of the economy to provide local perspectives on the economy and perceptions of economic development efforts.

The following is a summary of the stakeholders' perceptions of the current economic climate in Mifflin County.

PERCEPTIONS OF ECONOMIC STRENGTHS AND COMPETITIVENESS

Mifflin County is the regional leader in manufacturing, with this sector being the County's greatest strength. Although some manufacturing plants have closed, the County has an adequate workforce for this industry. Mifflin County's agricultural sector also plays a significant role in the regional economy. The County's proximity and highway access to State

College and Harrisburg, its rural landscape and natural resources, and the Lewistown Hospital, Mifflin County School District, and the educational foundation were also noted as strengths or assets.

“If competitive means being the “best” at something on a globally visible level, then in what is Mifflin County competitive?

- Ultrasonic technology, which started in 1965
- Steel, specifically forged steel rail wheels and axles
- Manufacturing
- Workforce with a good work ethic
- Competitive wage work force
- Service industry, education and healthcare

PERCEPTIONS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Other than the Chamber and MCIDC, stakeholders were not aware of or familiar with any local programs or efforts to strengthen small businesses and encourage entrepreneurship, including the Penn State Small Business Development Center. At least one stakeholder noted that students are interested in entrepreneurship and small business starts.

PERCEPTIONS OF OBSTACLES FOR GROWTH

Stakeholders identified the following obstacles:

- The remaining two-lane section of Route 322 , “the missing link,” in Centre County from Potter’s Mills to Boalsburg
- Lack of parcels of various sizes and appropriate zoning districts for development
- Fragmented economic development efforts; lack of leadership to comprehensively and strategically plan for a common future
- Sufficient, self-interest and “no change, no tax increase” mentalities of municipal officials
- Lack of cooperation and collaboration
- Lack of infrastructure to support economic development efforts
- Focused education, training, and re-training of workforce
- Poor social, economic and cultural perceptions of the County
- Lack of resources to bring in new business

**Stakeholders
Interviewed**

*Robert P. Postal,
President, Mifflin
County Industrial
Development
Authority*

*James Zubler,
Executive
Director,
Downtown
Lewistown, Inc.*

*John
Prendergast,
Plant Manager,
GE Inspection
Technology*

*Dan Patterson,
Standard Steel
Corp*

*Kay A. Hamilton,
RN, MS,
President & CEO,
Lewistown
Hospital*

*Dr. James A.
Estep,
Superintendent,
Mifflin County
School District*

*Daniel
Potutschinig,
Mifflin-Juniata
Career &
Technology*

**Stakeholders
Interviewed**

continued

Richard Daubert,
Executive
Director,
Tuscarora
Intermediate
Unit 11

PERCEPTIONS OF THE ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS IN BUILDING FUTURE ECONOMY

The Lewistown Hospital and the school district have played a key role in strengthening the health care and education systems in Mifflin County. They should continue to look at ways to educate and retain residents, while providing quality healthcare. The educational institutions should collaborate with businesses to tailor training or curriculum for workers; businesses should support the community through participation on local boards, providing financial support and granting internships.

Richard Smeltz,
Smeltz &
Aumiller Real
Estate

PERCEPTIONS OF INVESTMENTS NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN THE COUNTY'S APPEAL

Investments needed to strengthen the appeal of Mifflin County for new business and industry, residents and tourists include:

Christian
Aumiller,
Commercial
Appraiser

- Improvements to roads and infrastructure
- More, varied education opportunities
- Marketing of natural resources for tourism
- New housing options, notably for professionals
- Shovel-ready industrial sites and parks
- Additional cultural activities
- Higher quality shopping and dining venues
- Beautification in towns
- Better curriculum and higher performance from the school district, on par with State College and other local school districts
- Enforcement and/or incentives for property maintenance

PERCEPTIONS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Stakeholders identified the following opportunities:

- Leverage common and complementary strengths to create economic opportunities
- Create a community college
- Work together to grow and retain people and workforce
- Leverage local natural resources and amenities to attract people and businesses

PERCEPTIONS OF PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE INVESTMENT

Developing a skilled workforce to attract new business and industry is a clearly the highest priority. This includes better training for skilled,

technical jobs, expanded business and nursing programs, a local community college, and partnership with regional institutions for technology and science programs. Workforce investment is followed by:

- Business development/funding assistance and incentives, including expansion of the Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ)
- Infrastructure
- Highways; additional linkages and improvements
- Broadband
- Natural resource promotion for recreation and tourism
- Improving the image of the County, which could feature
 - A heritage of industrial support for war and peace time
 - The County's centrality to the state; proximity to Harrisburg and State College
 - A quality workforce
 - Rural qualities of life, e.g. low traffic, outdoor recreation, scenic natural beauty
 - Welcoming technology and innovation
- Identify land for industrial/commercial development; prepare shovel-ready sites
- Better hotels and restaurants serving visitors and professionals
- Understanding successful models for building reuse and redevelopment, e.g. the Hawley Silk Mill, and culturally relevant business, e.g. farm and craft markets. The County should obtain a Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) to study how successful models can be replicated in Mifflin County.

THE HAWLEY SILK MILL

The Hawley Silk Mill, LLC is an investment group of local people of Hawley, Pennsylvania, located at the north end of Lake Wallenpaupack in the Lake Region of the Pocono Mountains and the Upper Delaware River Corridor. The mission of the team is to make the Hawley Silk Mill a viable and successful location to conduct business while preserving the historic character of the building.

Originally the Bellemonte Silk Mill, the Hawley Silk Mill was built by the Dexter, Lambert & Company in 1880 and operated as a silk mill from 1880 until 1956. It was the first large scale silk factory in northeastern Pennsylvania. To this day, it is still the largest laid bluestone building in the world, and has a rich history of alternative energy use, once being powered by the water of the Paupack Creek behind the building. The mill has always been, and now continues to be, an important regional economic and historic resource to the northeastern Pennsylvania region. The Hawley Silk Mill has recently been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Source: www.hawleysilkmill.com.

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FINDINGS

1. Manufacturing continues to be a leading industry sector for the County. Industrial parks are nearly built out and occupied. More industrial sites are needed.
2. Agriculture continues to play an important role in the County's economy and its scenic, open space environment.
3. The retail sector in Mifflin County is strong with an LQ of 1.2. Based on this strong employment and rural character, the County could potentially support boutique retail that features an authentic Mifflin County experience and locally made products.
4. Peachey's in Belleville represented this concept prior to its closure. Kitchen Kettle Village in Intercourse, PA, provides a good example of a consortium of retail shops that offer authentic Pennsylvania Dutch gifts and local merchandise, made on-site, alongside restaurants and a bed and breakfast.
5. The accommodation/food services sector added jobs during the period of 2006 to 2010, and tourism spending in 2010 increased, post-recession. The Juniata River is a key asset that can be used to strengthen the retail and arts, entertainment, and recreation industry sectors. Areas adjacent to the river should be studied further to determine the economic market and feasibility for:
 - Water-recreation stores and services, such as fish tackle, an outfitter, and canoe and raft livery services.
 - Outdoor cafes and restaurants
6. The health care sector is growing. The merger with Geisinger brings new service and employment opportunities to the County.
7. Based on high unemployment and an increasing percentage of jobs going to workers from surrounding counties, residents aren't competing successfully for local jobs. Education, training and re-training may be needed.



CHAPTER 5

LAND USE ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

A comprehensive study and mapping of existing land uses serves as a guide for defining community character, addressing land use conflicts and for planning future development that is compatible with existing communities and environmental resources. Together with other factors, a land use study depicts restrictions and opportunities for future growth and development.

EXISTING LAND USE

Natural features, such as mountain ridges, fertile soils, and waterways continue to shape Mifflin County's land use pattern. These features have influenced the patterns of early industry, including agriculture and manufacturing, neighborhoods and commercial centers, and the highway and utility infrastructure that support them.

Land use data was gathered and tabulated by the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department and the Mifflin County GIS Department. The land use analysis was conducted in February 2012 by comparing the County's 1999 land use inventory with 2010 National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery and 2007 aerial photography.

Mifflin County's mountain ridges, fertile soils, and waterways have shaped and continue to shape its land use and infrastructure patterns.

Figure 5-1 Existing Land Use, 2010 (map) shows the distribution of land uses across the County's 265,818 acres. The figure demonstrates land use patterns which are indicative of transportation and water body influences which have guided development in Mifflin County. Figure 5-2 Existing Land Use in Developed Areas, 2010 (map) shows enlargements of the land use pattern in the County's most developed areas.

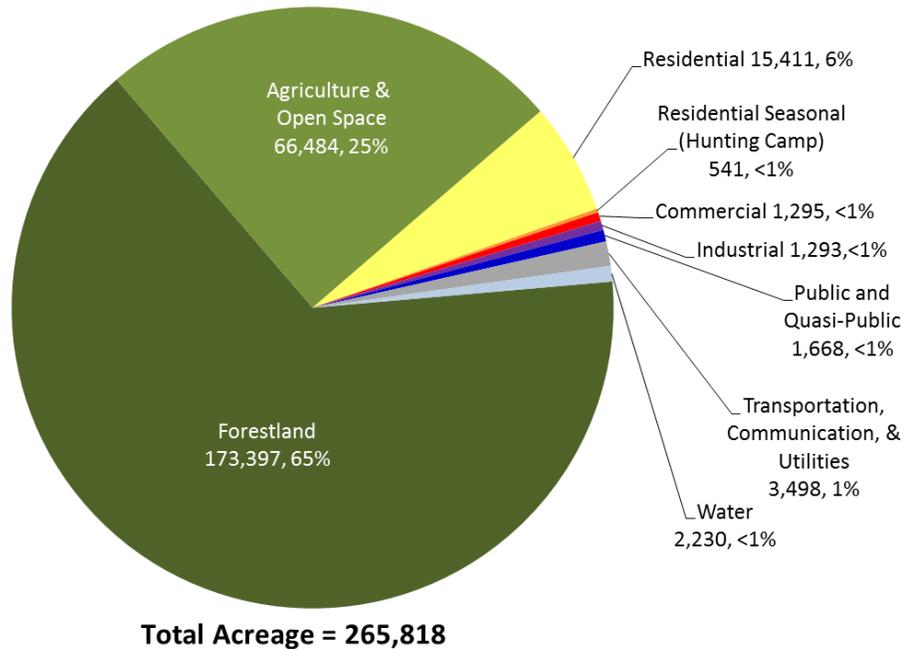
Table 5-1 shows the number of acres dedicated to each of the County's land use categories and subcategories, and the percent of the total land area occupied by each land use. Figure 5-3 illustrates these percentages. The County's land use analysis by municipality and planning region is provided in Table 5-2. Planning regions are illustrated in Figure 1-2 of Chapter 1.

GENERAL LAND USE CHARACTER

Overall, Mifflin County can be characterized as a rural area where 239,881 acres (90.2 percent) are engaged in open space uses (forest, farm, and other open space). The public forest lands, including Reeds Gap State Park, Tuscarora State Forest, Bald Eagle State Forest, Rothrock State Forest, and State Game Lands, comprise 68,648 acres – 39.6 percent of the County's forested land or more than one quarter of the County's total area.

All three of the County's valley landscapes are mainly used for agriculture.

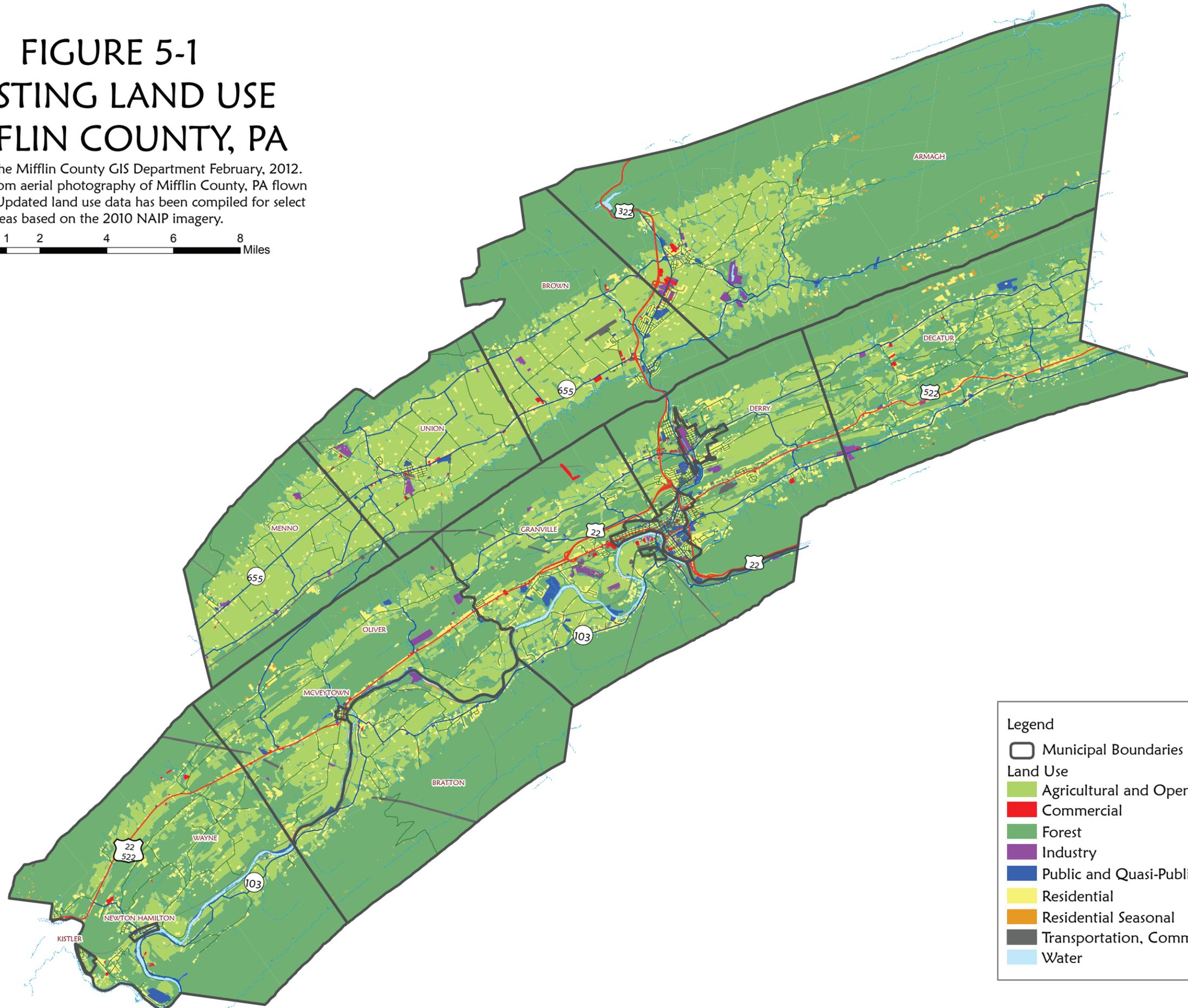
Figure 5-3 Mifflin County Land Use Distribution, 2010



Source: Mifflin County GIS Department, 2012

FIGURE 5-1 EXISTING LAND USE MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department February, 2012.
Data sources from aerial photography of Mifflin County, PA flown
April, 2007. Updated land use data has been compiled for select
areas based on the 2010 NAIP imagery.



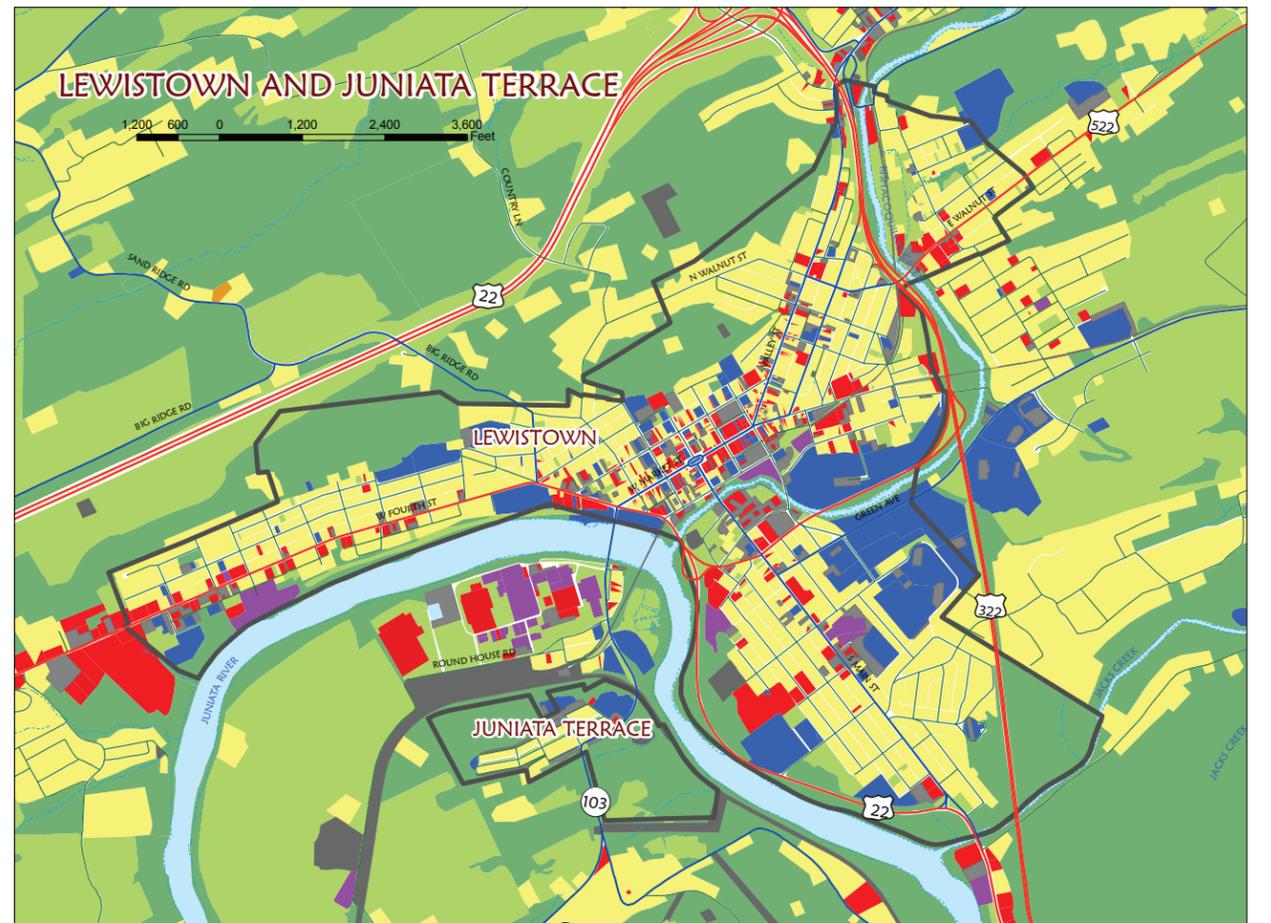
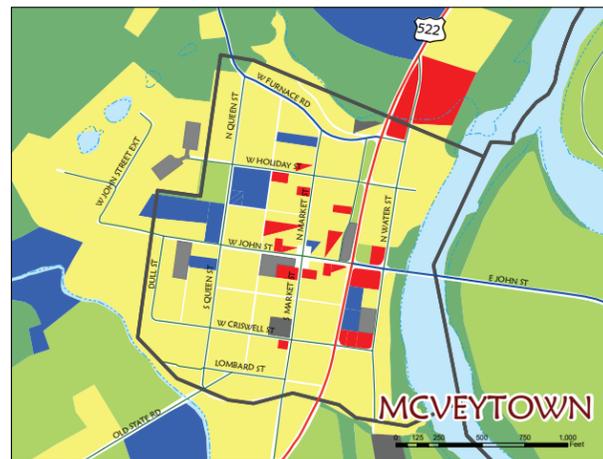
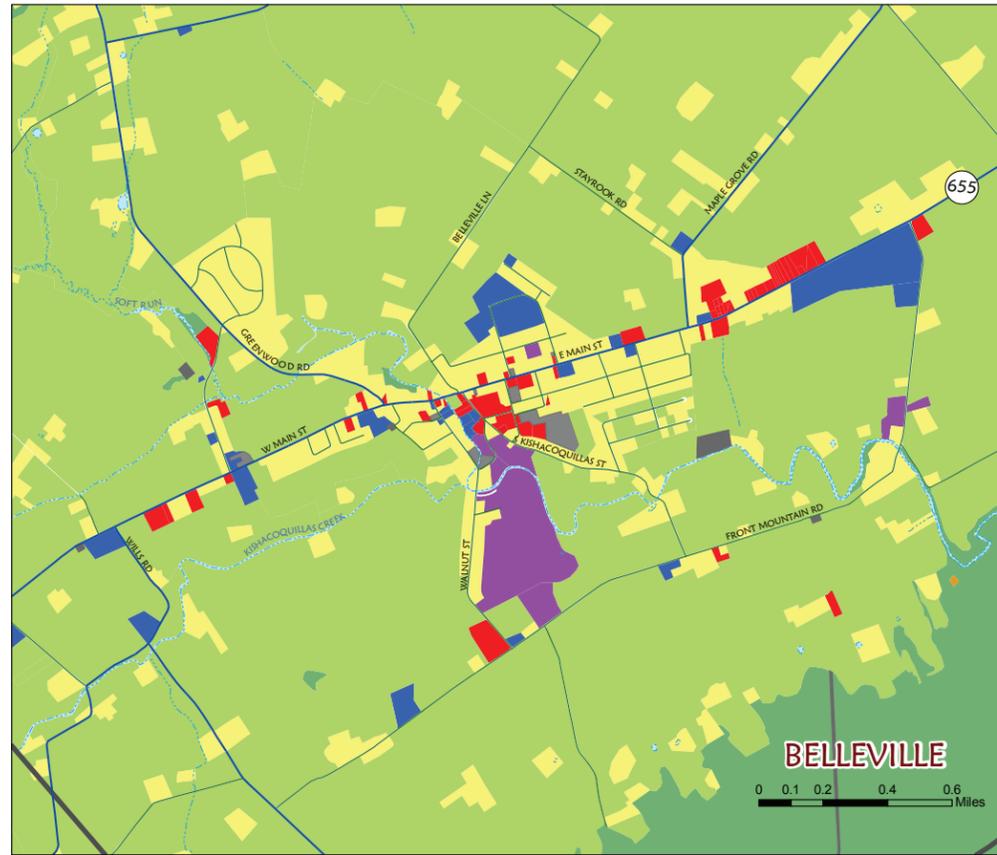
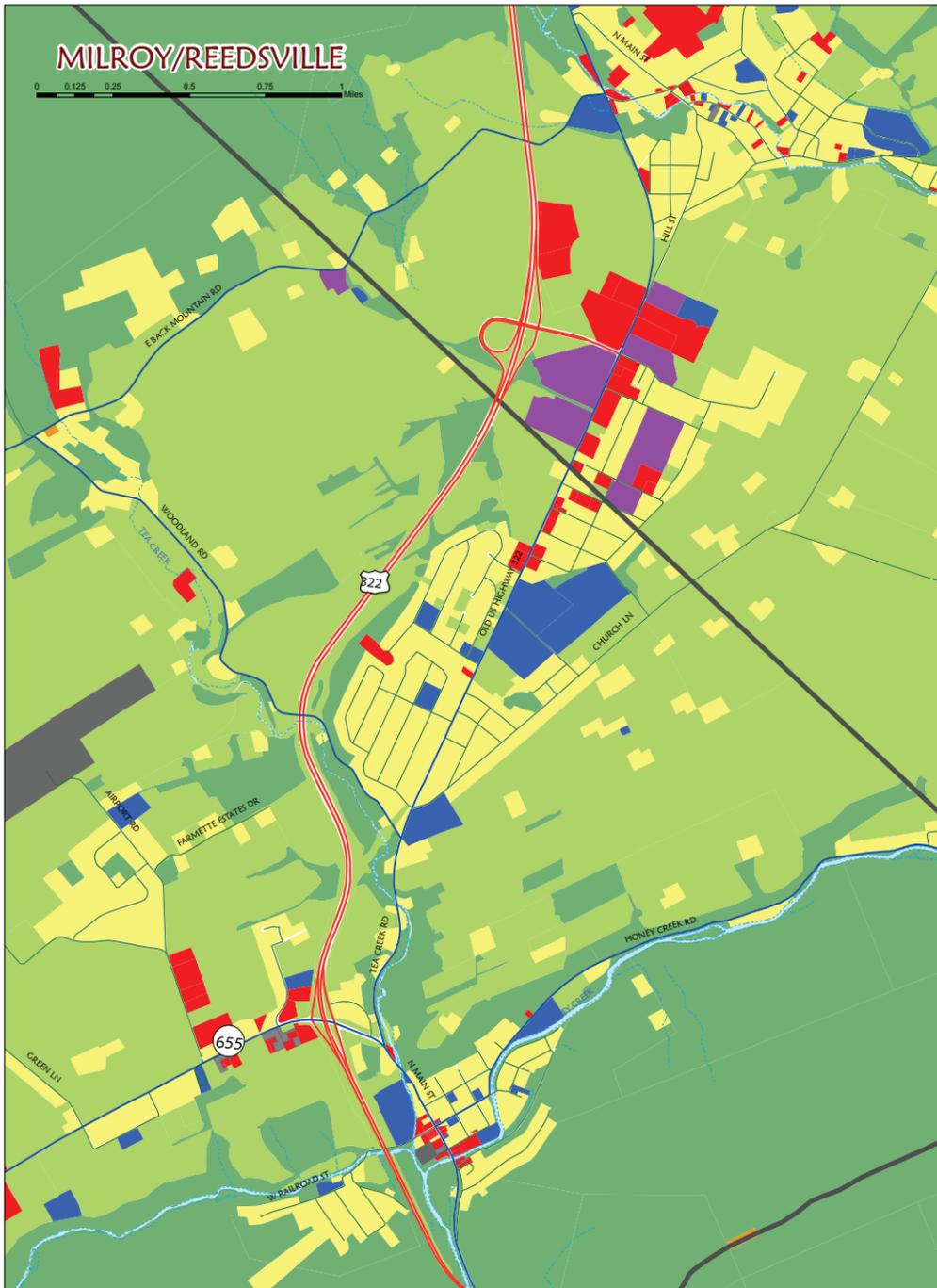
Legend

- Municipal Boundaries
- Land Use**
- Agricultural and Open Spaces
- Commercial
- Forest
- Industry
- Public and Quasi-Public
- Residential
- Residential Seasonal
- Transportation, Communication and Utilities
- Water



FIGURE 5-2 EXISTING LAND USE MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department February, 2012.
Data sources from aerial photography of Mifflin County, PA flown
April, 2007. Updated land use data has been compiled for select
areas based on the 2010 NAIP imagery.



Legend

- Municipal Boundaries
- Land Use**
- Agricultural and Open Spaces
- Commercial
- Forest
- Industry
- Public and Quasi-Public
- Residential
- Residential Seasonal
- Transportation, Communication and Utilities
- Water

Table 5-1 Mifflin County Existing Land Use, 2010

Land Use Categories (includes major and subcategories)	Total Acres (2010)	% of Total	Total Acres (1999)	Acreage Change (1999-2010)	% Change (1999 - 2010)
Residential	15,953	5.99%	14,119	1,834	12.99%
Single Family Home	11,239	4.23%	9,900	1,339	13.53%
Residential Farm	2,687	1.01%	2,381	306	12.87%
Mobile Home	1,271	0.48%	1,080	191	17.69%
Vacant Residential	2	0.00%	227	-225	-99.07%
Multi-Family Residence	122	0.05%	127	-5	-3.86%
Apartment	60	0.02%	61	-1	-2.26%
Townhouse	30	0.01%	26	4	14.81%
Residential Seasonal (Hunting Camp)	541	0.20%	317	224	70.79%
Commercial	1,295	0.49%	1,113	182	16.36%
Service	335	0.13%	312	23	7.29%
Retail	334	0.13%	257	77	30.07%
Vacant Commercial	264	0.10%	226	38	16.60%
Heavy Commercial	237	0.09%	225	12	5.30%
Service Institution	100	0.04%	69	31	45.39%
Non-Profit Service	25	0.01%	22	3	15.00%
Industrial	1,293	0.49%	1,261	32	2.50%
Quarry	499	0.19%	505	-6	-1.28%
Light Industry	427	0.16%	405	22	5.56%
Heavy Industry	367	0.14%	350	17	4.73%
Public and Quasi-Public	1,668	0.63%	2,002	-334	-16.70%
Recreation	1,108	0.42%	1,464	-356	-24.32%
Church or Cemetery	285	0.11%	260	25	9.65%
Education	186	0.07%	189	-3	-1.51%
Government	89	0.03%	88	1	0.64%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	3,498	1.32%	2,795	703	25.16%
Utility	728	0.27%	699	29	4.22%
Railway or Terminal	257	0.10%	224	33	14.62%
Parking Lot	250	0.09%	171	79	46.01%
Airport	107	0.04%	90	17	19.17%
Pipeline	48	0.02%	47	1	2.12%
Communication	24	0.01%	38	-14	-37.39%
Highways and Roads ^{2,3}	2,084	0.78%	1,526	558	36.58%
Developed Lands Subtotal	23,706	8.92%	21,286	2,420	11.37%
Continued					

Table 5-1 Mifflin County Existing Land Use, 2010 (continued)

Land Use Categories (includes major and subcategories)	Total Acres (2010)	% of Total	Total Acres (1999)	Acreage Change (1999-2010)	% Change (1999 - 2010)
Forestland	173,397	65.23%	173,970	-573	-0.33%
Public (State Forest)	67,569	25.42%	67,569	0	0.00%
Public (State Park)	21	0.01%	21	0	0.00%
Public (State Game Lands)	1,058	0.40%	1,058	0	0.00%
Non-Public	104,749	39.41%	105,232	-483	-0.46%
Agriculture & Other Open Space	66,484	25.01%	68,591	-2,107	-3.07%
Agriculture	64,625	24.31%	65,256	-631	-0.97%
Other Open Space	1,859	0.70%	3,335	-1,476	-44.26%
Open Space Subtotal	239,881	90.24%	242,561	-2,680	-1.10%
Water	2,230	0.84%	1,971	259	13.16%
Total	265,818	100.00%	265,818	0	0.00%

Notes:

1. Higher resolution aerial photography from 2007 enabled more accurate and refined land use classifications than that prepared for the 1999 land use analysis. The application of improving technology results in some disparities within land use categories between the 1999 and 2010 land use analyses.
2. The 2010 acreage for highways and roads in Mifflin County (2,084 acres) was derived by subtracting the total acreage of the land use categories (263,733 acres) from total county land area (265,818 acres).
3. The 1999 acreage for highways and roads shown in Table 5-1 uses the same methodology as the 2010 acreage for highways and roads, not the estimated acreage, derived from road miles and as estimated average width, shown in the 2000 comprehensive plan.

Source: Mifflin County GIS Department. 2012

All three valley landscapes are predominantly used for agriculture. The fertile Kishacoquillas Creek Valley, also known as Big Valley, and the narrower Ferguson Valley are almost entirely devoted to agriculture. The Juniata River Valley is largely occupied by farmland and woodlands east and west of Greater Lewistown, including Lewistown, Burnham, and Juniata Terrace as well as Derry and Granville Townships.

Intensive uses occupy 23,706 acres (8.9 percent) for all residential, commercial, industrial, public and quasi-public, and transportation, communication, and utilities purposes. These uses are concentrated and contiguous in Greater Lewistown, McVeytown, Newton-Hamilton, and Kistler in the Juniata River Valley, and in Allensville, Belleville, Milroy, Church Hill, and Reedsville in the Big Valley. Elsewhere, rural residential and business and public uses are dispersed along the state and local transportation network.

LAND USE TYPES

RESIDENTIAL

Residential uses include single-family homes (attached and detached), homes on farms, mobile homes, apartments, townhomes, and other multi-family structures, and seasonal/recreational homes (cabins). The heaviest concentration of residential uses is located in Greater Lewistown where single-family and multi-family housing exists. The County's rural residential settings are comprised of low density single-family detached homes, mobile homes, and homes on farms. Seasonal homes (cabins) are found throughout the mountains, especially in Armagh Township. These uses total 15,953 acres, or 6.0 percent, of the County.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Commercial uses include land sustaining retail, wholesale, office, and service businesses. Industrial land is comprised of businesses involved in the manufacture, processing, storage, or distribution of durable and/or non-durable goods, as well as extractive mining operations. Commercial and industrial centers are located in Lewistown Borough and its vicinity, specifically along U.S. Routes 22/522 and 22/322 and the Norfolk Southern rail line. Smaller concentrations of commercial and industrial uses are located in the Belleville, Milroy and Reedsville areas and found in the Juniata River valley where land is relatively flat. Active limestone quarry operations are primarily located in Armagh Township. Combined, commercial and industrial land uses comprise 2,588 acres, or less than one percent of the County's total area.

Public uses, are concentrated in Greater Lewistown, while other community uses are found throughout the County.

PUBLIC AND QUASI-PUBLIC

Public and quasi-public uses are those uses that support and sustain the residential and economic components of the community. Public uses are generally government-provided facilities, while quasi-public uses are those provided by private, non-profit organizations. This category typically includes establishments or properties that provide educational, cultural, or social services for the community, such as municipal buildings, churches, schools, fire companies, cemeteries, recreational facilities, health care facilities, and other similar civic uses. These uses are clustered in the boroughs and unincorporated villages and especially concentrated in Greater Lewistown, while quasi-public uses, such as churches, cemeteries and recreation, are found throughout the County. Less than one percent, or 1,668 acres, of the County's area is devoted to public and quasi-public uses.

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, AND UTILITIES

Land uses included in the transportation, communication and utilities category represent infrastructure facilities on the surface that are part of larger infrastructure systems. They do not represent underground utilities or include rights-of-way, though both are essential to the interconnectedness of each system. Accounting for the estimated number of highway acres, this land use category occupies 3,498 acres, or 1.3 percent, of the County's total area.

AGRICULTURE AND OPEN SPACE

Decatur, Derry, and Granville Townships each have more than 2,000 acres of residential land use, but only Derry's figure exceeds 10% of its total area.

Agriculture and open space uses includes land areas currently being used for agricultural purposes (i.e., cropland, pasture, farm, and non-farm agricultural uses), as well as unforested, undeveloped areas. These uses occupy approximately 66,484 acres, or 25 percent of the County's land area, making Agriculture and open space the second largest land use category. The heaviest concentration of agricultural and open space uses is located in the Big Valley.

FORESTLAND

Forestlands are those lands covered by deciduous and/or evergreen vegetation. Historically, forests have been the predominant land use of Mifflin County, occupying the steep slopes of Jacks Mountain, Stone Mountain, and Blue Mountain. Public land acquisition for state forest and state game lands has conserved significant amounts of forestland. Today, forestland remains the predominant land use, covering 173,397 acres, or 65 percent, of the County's area among public and private owners.

MUNICIPALITIES

A few municipalities stand out with high and low acreages and percentages in each of the land use categories (Table 5-2). Decatur, Derry, and Granville Townships each have more than 2,000 acres of residential land use, but only Derry's figure exceeds 10% of its total area. Burnham Borough's 273 acres of residential use comprise 43 percent of its total area. Juniata Terrace has only 12 acres of residential land use, which happens to be 12 percent of its 102 acres.

Armagh Township has the largest amount of commercial acreage (352 acres), due in part to the development of the Armagh Business Center since 2000, followed by Granville Township (197 acres) and Derry Township (145 acres). Commercial acreage is significant municipally in Lewistown where 86 commercial acres comprise 8 percent of the borough, in McVeytown where 3 commercial acres comprise 6 percent of its total area.

Armagh Township also has the largest industrial acreage (297 acres), as a result of quarries being classified as industrial uses, followed by Granville Township (196 acres) and Oliver Township (168 acres). Industrial acreage is significant municipally in Burnham where 92 industrial acres comprise 15 percent of its total area, Juniata Terrace, Kistler, McVeytown, and Wayne Township have no industrial land.

Granville Township has the largest acreage (354 acres, 1 percent) in public/quasi-public uses, including the Lewistown County Club and Waterside Campground (formerly the Locust), while Lewistown has the largest percentage of its municipal land area (13 percent, 66 acres) devoted to these uses. Lewistown also has the largest number of public (tax exempt) parcels, which limits the Borough's tax revenue to the remaining taxable properties. Newtown-Hamilton Borough follows with 9 percent of its area occupied by public and quasi-public uses.

Granville Township also has the largest acreage (354 acres) in transportation, communications, and utilities uses as a result of US 22/522. In Juniata Terrace and Lewistown, these uses occupy 7 and 6 percent, respectively, the largest percentages in the County.

Armagh Township has the largest municipal acreage of forest land (47,906 acres, 81 percent). Union Township has the largest acreage and percentage of agriculture and open space land (9,111 acres, 55 percent),

PLANNING REGIONS

The South Central Region is the most intensively developed region with more than 7,200 acres of intensive uses (15 percent of its 47,416 acre region). Despite more than 4,200 acres of developed uses in the Northeast Region, its abundance of forestland and agriculture and open space dominate its 80,313 acres, yielding a developed percentage of 5 percent.

Table 5-2 Existing Land Use by Municipality and Planning Region, 2010

	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Public / Quasi- Public	Trans./ Comm./ Utilities	% Developed Land	Forestland	Agriculture/ Open Space	% Open Space	Water	Total
Mifflin County											
(as sum of municipal)	15,953	1,295	1,293	1,668	3,498	8.92%	173,397	66,484	90.24%	2,230	265,818
Armagh Township	1,886	352	297	132	12	4.51%	47,906	8,642	95.15%	206	59,433
Bratton Township	894	11	55	20	550	7.10%	16,206	3,561	91.70%	260	21,556
Brown Township	1,241	111	42	122	243	8.37%	11,981	7,234	91.36%	57	21,032
Burnham Borough	273	34	92	8	76	70.99%	179	8	27.54%	10	680
Decatur Township	2,087	65	112	145	12	8.42%	20,301	5,970	91.36%	62	28,755
Derry Township	2,172	145	81	208	443	15.44%	11,713	4,819	83.72%	166	19,747
Granville Township	2,179	197	196	318	875	14.16%	16,288	5,988	83.80%	542	26,583
Juniata Terrace Borough	12	0	0	5	18	32.06%	70	6	67.94%	0	112
Kistler Borough	46	0	0	8	1	35.83%	61	37	64.17%	0	153
Lewistown Borough	471	86	20	149	163	72.17%	259	70	26.74%	13	1,232
McVeytown Borough	39	3	0	3	4	80.41%	8	2	15.37%	3	63
Menno Township	663	16	74	22	320	7.17%	6,093	8,080	92.79%	7	15,275
Newton-Hamilton Borough	52	3	0	10	3	59.77%	20	8	24.08%	19	115
Oliver Township	1,403	56	168	149	168	8.56%	13,531	6,927	90.13%	297	22,699
Union Township	1,063	113	154	62	252	9.88%	5,827	9,111	89.84%	46	16,628
Wayne Township	1,471	104	0	305	358	7.05%	22,954	6,021	91.24%	543	31,756
Planning Regions											
Northwest	1,726	128	228	84	572	8.58%	11,920	17,191	91.25%	53	31,903
Northeast	3,128	463	339	254	256	5.52%	59,887	15,876	94.16%	263	80,465
Southwest	1,569	107	0	323	362	7.37%	23,036	6,065	90.87%	562	32,024
SW Central	2,336	69	224	173	722	7.95%	29,744	10,490	90.78%	560	44,318
S Central	5,107	462	389	688	1,575	17.00%	28,509	10,892	81.48%	732	48,354
Southeast	2,087	65	112	145	12	8.42%	20,301	5,970	91.36%	62	28,755

Source: Mifflin County GIS Department, 2012

Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. **Southwest:** Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. **Southwest Central:** McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. **Southeast:** Decatur Township. **Northwest:** Menno and Union Townships. **Northeast:** Brown and Armagh Townships.

LAND USE CHANGE, 1990-2010

The change in land use analysis found an increase of 2,420 acres in developed uses from 1999 to 2010, or an 11 percent increase (see Table 5-1). Most of this land was formerly open space (1,476 acres). The greatest acreage increase was in the single-family home subcategory (1,339 acres), followed by highways and roads (558 acres, 37 percent). The greatest change in percentage was among seasonal homes (cabins) at an increase of 71 percent (224 acres). Other notable percentage increases in acreages were in parking lots (46 percent, 79 acres), commercial service institutions (45 percent, 23 acres), and retail (30 percent, 77 acres). Significant decreases included recreation (-356 acres, -24 percent) and vacant residential (-225 acres, -99 percent), and communication (-14 acres, -37 percent).

The majority of residential development constructed between 2000 and 2010 was located in the Northeast, South Central, and Southwest Regions. Municipal building permits data issued for residential development in these areas correspond to this land use change. Land attributed to all residential subcategories, except vacant residential, increased in this over the past decade.

Much of the new commercial and industrial development is located in the South Central Region, primarily along U.S. Route 522 in Granville Township. New commercial development, including big box retailers such as Lowes, contributed to the County's 30 percent increase in retail development between 1999 and 2010. The Armagh Business Center, including Tom's gas station, a Best Western Motel, restaurants dollar store and vehicle/equipment dealer, also contributed to this increase. The increase in commercial development is reflected in the 2011 Quality of Life Survey, as residents reported an increase in some retail shopping in the Lewistown area since 1998.

Vacant commercial land uses in the County increased by 16.6 percent between 1999 and 2010, most likely reflecting an inventory of older commercial facilities combined with the sharp downturn in economic conditions in 2008.

During this period, the County lost a total of 573 acres of forestland and 2,107 acres of agriculture and open space land. The agricultural land converted to development, with some portion potentially converted to forestland, totaled 631 acres as shown in Table 5-1.

New commercial development including big box retailers such as Lowes contributes to the County's 30 percent increase in retail development between 1999 and 2010.

Municipalities

Residential land use increased the most in Armagh Township, namely 596 acres of new residential land use, a 46 percent increase, followed by 405 acres of new residential uses in Wayne Township (30 percent increase)(Table 5-2). Small losses in residential land use occurred in Granville Township, McVeytown Borough, and Newton-Hamilton Borough.

It is interesting to note that Brown Township's population growth is reflected in its residential land use increase. Between 2000 and 2010, Brown Township experienced a population increase of 5.22 percent (201 residents), issued 180 residential building permits and increased its residential land by 185 acres. Improved highway access to the Township via US 322 likely contributed to this resident growth and land use change.

However, in Armagh Township, population and development trends did not align. Armagh Township experienced a 3.13 percent population decrease, yet the number of residential building permits issued was 10.7 percent of the county total and residential acreage increased from 1,290 to 1,886. This condition is likely due to citizens moving out of the township combined with the type of residential development (low density single family detached housing). Armagh Township had a notable increase in residential seasonal (hunting camps) acreage, a total of 216 acres, more than any other municipality in Mifflin County, which would not increase the resident population.

Armagh Township had the highest increase in commercial acreage, 268 acres, as a result of development along Commerce Drive.

Armagh Township also had the highest increase in commercial acreage, specifically 268 acres, which more than tripled its total commercial land area. This increase came as a result of development along Commerce Drive, including Tom's/Arby's. Wayne Township ranked a distant second with an increase of 11 acres (12 percent), followed by Oliver Township with an increase of 10 acres or 21 percent. Commercial acreage in other municipalities was relatively flat or declined. Bratton Township lost 51 acres, however this may have resulted from a reclassification as its industrial acreage increased by 49 acres. Similarly Wayne Township lost 13 acres of industrial land and gained 11 acres of commercial land, and Decatur Township lost 22 acres of commercial land and gained 23 acres of industrial land. The Mifflin County Industrial Park along U.S. Route 522 in Granville Township has nearly reached capacity. Granville Township actually lost total acreage in these two categories.

Oliver Township gained the largest amount of public and quasi-public land (59 acres), followed by an increase of 32 acres in Decatur Township. Armagh, Granville, and Wayne Townships each lost public and quasi-

public lands – 208 acres in Armagh, 105 acres in Granville, and 48 acres in Wayne. Burnham Borough lost 16 acres, a decline of 68%.

Transportation, communications, and utilities uses increased in most municipalities.

Forestland, agriculture and open space acreages typically decline as a community grows. However, forestland can increase where pastures and meadows are left to natural regeneration, and agriculture and open space can take the place of forestland where forests are cleared. Table 5-2 shows that most municipalities lost more agriculture and open space lands than they gained in forestland, if they gained at all. McVeytown and Newton-Hamilton were the only municipalities to gain open space lands. Several municipalities gained forestland; only Burnham, Juniata Terrace, and McVeytown Boroughs gained more forestland than it lost in agriculture and open space land.

Planning Regions

These changes in land use among municipalities roll up into substantial gains in residential land use in the Northeast, Southwest, and Northwest Regions. The Northeast Region gained a total of 782 acres of residential use, or an increase of 33 percent. The Southwest gained 406 acres of residential use, or a 35 percent increase for the Region. The Northwest Region gained less, 294 acres, but still saw a 21 percent increase in its residential land total.

The Northeast Region also had the largest commercial acreage increase, 266 acres or 135 percent, as a result of Armagh Township's gain. The largest commercial acreage loss was in the Southwest Central Region, 43 acres, though this was likely influenced by the reclassification of some commercial land as industrial. The South Central Region lost 41 acres, or 8 percent, of its commercial land and 12 acres, 3 percent, of its industrial land.

The Southwest Central Region had the largest gain in public and quasi-public uses – 51 acres, or 42 percent. The Northeast and South Central Regions lost more at least 100 acres of public and quasi-public land uses – 213 acres in the Northeast Region, or 46 percent, and 100 acres, or 13 percent, in the South Central Region.

All regions had gains in transportation, communication and utilities uses; the South Central Region had the largest increase of 96 acres, or 18 percent, largely due to the construction of the US 22/522 improvement in Granville Township. In the Southwest Region, these uses increased by 35 acres, 31 percent, as a result of reclassification of the lands behind the electric transmission lines from forest and open space to utility.

Residential land use increases by municipality rolled up into significant increases in the Northeast, Southwest, and Northwest Planning Regions.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

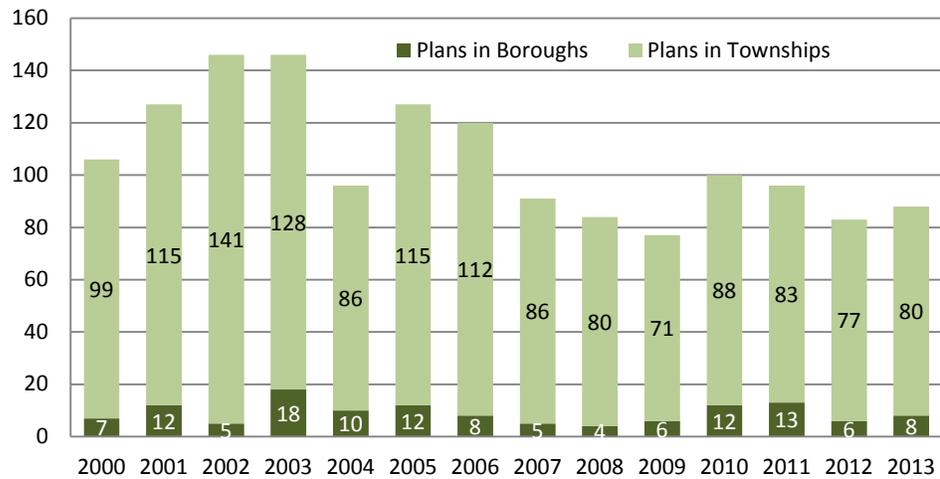
Information collected from various state and local government sources provides additional insight on the County’s development trends over the past decade and demonstrates the areas of Mifflin County that experienced faster growth than other areas.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN ACTIVITY

Subdivision plans demonstrate intent to change and potentially increase the number of landowners for a certain tract of land. Land development plans demonstrate intent to change or intensify the land use activity.

A total of 1,220 subdivision and land development reviews were conducted by the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department between 2000 and 2010 (Table 5-3). Review activity was highest in 2003 with 146 reviews. Only 77 reviews were conducted in 2009, reflecting an economic low point in subdivision activity and land development planning.

FIGURE 5-4 SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS REVIEWED, 2000-2013



Source: Mifflin County Planning Commission, Annual Reports, 2000-2013

Table 5-3 -Mifflin County Subdivision and Land Development Reviews, Total Number (2000 - 2010)

Municipality	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Municipal Totals	
	106	127	146	146	96	127	120	91	84	77	100	#	As % of County
County Total	106	127	146	146	96	127	120	91	84	77	100	1,220	100.0%
Armagh Township	8	17	12	13	6	19	21	15	8	3	7	129	10.6%
Bratton Township	4	10	8	13	4	3	4	3	3	3	5	60	4.9%
Brown Township	5	2	13	12	11	16	10	13	13	9	12	116	9.5%
Burnham Borough	2	3	4	6	2	2	4	1	2	0	2	28	2.3%
Decatur Township	16	16	12	12	14	12	13	9	7	10	4	125	10.2%
Derry Township	19	25	26	20	11	13	8	10	13	9	13	167	13.7%
Granville Township	9	11	18	21	10	9	12	13	7	8	10	128	10.5%
Juniata Terrace Borough	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.1%
Kistler Borough	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.2%
Lewistown Borough	3	3	1	12	7	9	3	3	1	5	8	55	4.5%
McVeytown Borough	-	3	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	10	0.8%
Menno Township	6	6	3	6	9	11	5	4	6	8	7	71	5.8%
Newton Hamilton Borough	-	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0.2%
Oliver Township	12	6	15	8	8	4	13	5	9	4	11	95	7.8%
Union Township	10	10	18	15	4	14	12	5	8	8	8	112	9.2%
Wayne Township	10	12	16	8	9	14	14	9	6	9	11	118	9.7%
Planning Regions													
Northwest	16	16	21	21	13	25	17	9	14	16	15	183	15.0%
Northeast	13	19	25	25	17	35	31	28	21	12	19	245	20.1%
Southwest	11	15	16	8	9	14	15	9	6	9	11	123	10.1%
SW Central	16	19	23	21	13	8	17	9	13	8	18	165	13.5%
S Central	34	42	49	59	30	33	27	27	23	22	33	379	31.1%
Southeast	16	16	12	12	14	12	13	9	7	10	4	125	10.2%

Source: Mifflin County Planning Commission, Annual Reports (2000-2010)

Planning Regions – South Central: Lewistown, Juniata Terrace and Burnham Boroughs as well as Derry and Granville Townships. **Southwest:** Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. **Southwest Central:** McVeytown Borough and Bratton and Oliver Townships. **Southeast:** Decatur Township. **Northwest:** Menno and Union Townships. **Northeast:** Brown and Armagh Townships.

Plans for projects in six townships accounted for more than 64 percent of all subdivision and land development reviews by the County from 2000-2010.

From 2000 to 2010, plans for projects in Derry, Armagh, Granville, Decatur, Wayne, and Brown Townships accounted for more than 64 percent of all reviews and plans for projects in all townships totaled 1,121 plans or 92 percent of countywide activity.

In the past three years, subdivision and land development activity has increased but is still below the average for the previous decade. Armagh, Brown, Decatur, Derry, and Granville remain the municipalities with the most activity. In the western part of the county, activity in Wayne Township has declined and has increased in Menno and Union Townships.

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY

Between 2000 and 2010, 12,063 building permits were issued:

- 1,718 permits for residential construction of 1,012 single family units and siting of 380 mobile homes;
- 326 permits for commercial and public building construction;
- 368 permits for demolition; and
- 9,977 permits for “other” building activities, which includes permits for renovations, outdoor additions, and non-residential buildings (Table 5-4, Figure 5-5).

The highest number of building permits was issued in 2004, following the peak in subdivision and land development activity from 2002 to 2004 and including more than 2,000 permits for “other” building activities. This boom in development was spurred by the anticipation and enactment of the state building code in 2004.

Building permit activity between 2000 and 2010 reflects residential development in terms of housing units, not total acreage.

In the past three years, the number of building permits issues has increased in all but the “other” category. Most notably, commercial/public permits have more than tripled and demolition permits have more than doubled.

Building permits peaked in 2004 in anticipation of the statewide building code.

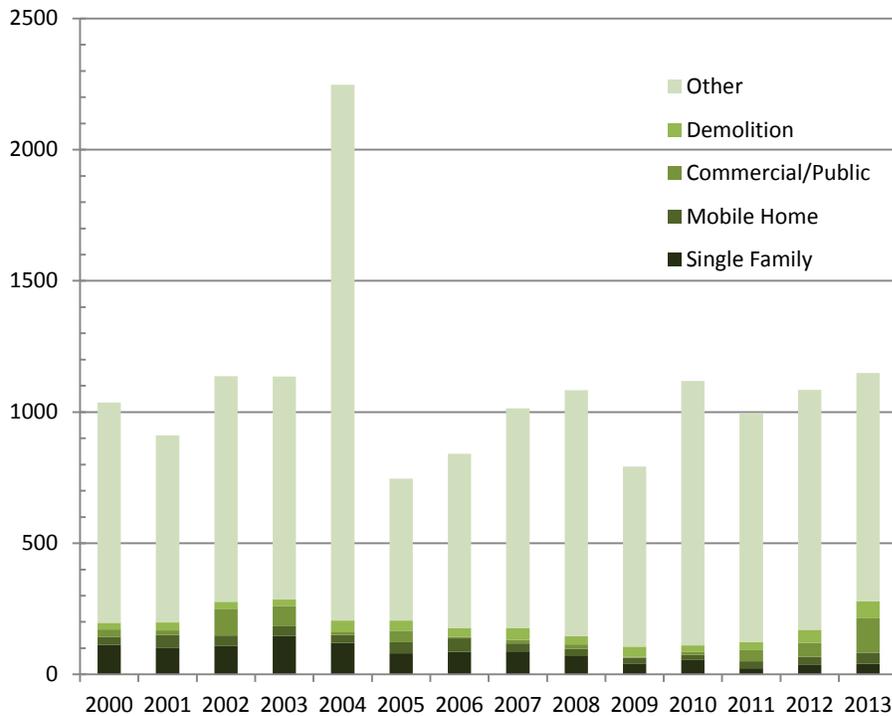
The majority of residential development, including single family and manufactured homes, constructed between 2000 and 2010 was located in the Northeast, South Central, and Southwest Regions (Figure 5-6). This is reflected in the building permits issued for residential development in Granville Township (15.37% of county total), Derry Township (13.86%), Brown Township (12.93%), Armagh Township (10.70%), and Wayne Township (9.99%).

Table 5-4 Total Building Permits Issued by Type, 2000-2013

Year	Single Family	Mobile Home	Commercial /Public	Demolition	Other	Total
2000	113	31	28	25	839	1,036
2001	102	49	17	30	713	911
2002	109	39	102	27	860	1,137
2003	147	37	77	24	851	1,136
2004	120	31	9	45	2,043	2,248
2005	80	43	44	39	540	746
2006	86	51	6	34	664	841
2007	88	30	13	47	836	1,014
2008	70	27	17	32	938	1,084
2009	42	22	3	39	686	792
2010	55	20	10	26	1,007	1,118
2000-2010	1,012	380	326	368	9,977	12,063
2011	23	27	43	31	872	996
2012	38	29	53	50	915	1,085
2013	40	43	131	65	870	1,149

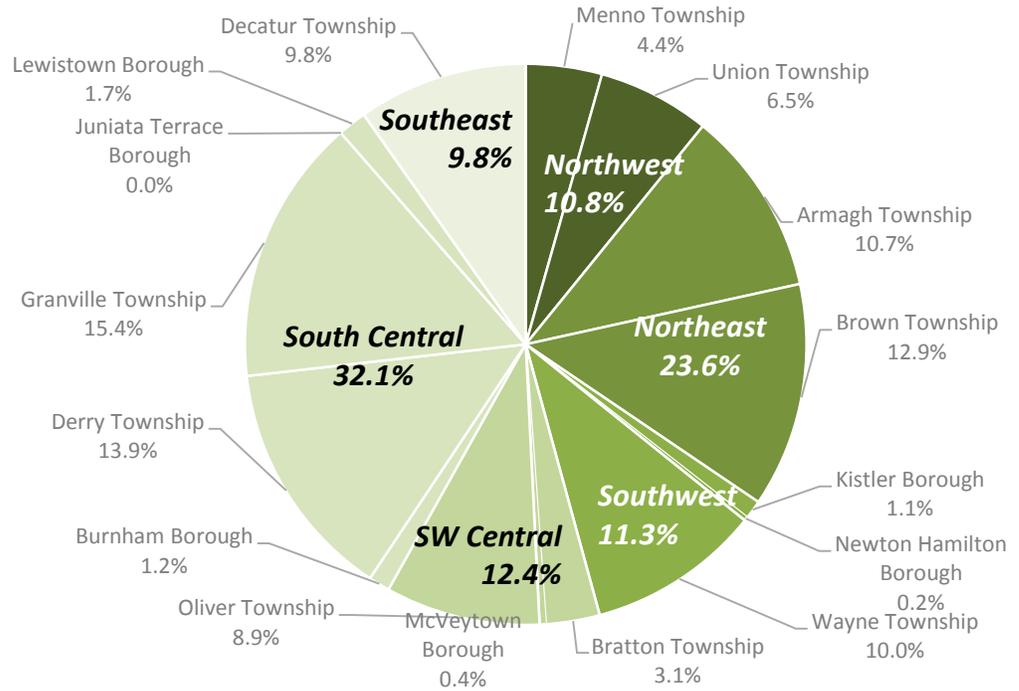
Source: Mifflin County Planning Commission, Annual Reports, 2000-2013

Figure 5-5 Total Building Permits Issues by Type, 2000-2013



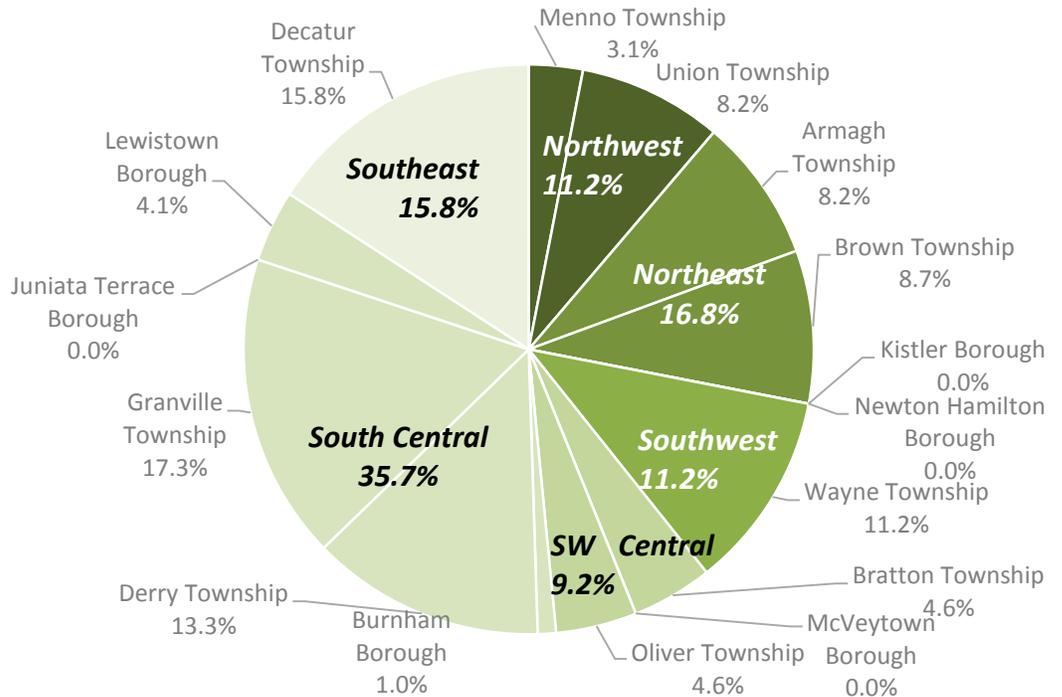
Source: Mifflin County Planning Commission, Annual Reports, 2000-2013

Figure 5-6 Distribution of Residential Building Permits Issued, by Municipality and Planning Region, 2000-2010



Source: Mifflin County Planning Commission, Annual Reports, 2000-2010

Figure 5-7 Distribution of Residential Building Permits Issued, by Municipality and Planning Region, 2011-2013



Source: Mifflin County Planning Commission, Annual Reports, 2011-2013

In the past three years, the distribution of development activity has changed. There have relatively fewer building permits issues the Northeast and Southwest Central planning regions and relatively more permits issued in the Southeast planning region (Figure 5-7).

REDEVELOPMENT

The redevelopment of the former Mann Edge Tool site in Lewistown into a 31-unit senior housing building is a significant brownfields success story in Mifflin County. After the manufacturing facility closed in 2003, the Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation (MCIDC) quickly began overseeing redevelopment efforts. Public and private sector partners included: Mifflin County, the Borough of Lewistown, SEDA-Council of Governments, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, Juniata Valley Bank, and Lewistown Hospital. The project was completed in summer 2012.

In addition, nearly \$500,000 in Brownfields for Housing grants, HOME and Act 137 funds, which are generated by mortgage and deed filing fees, have supported the rehabilitation of 20 homes throughout Mifflin County and the construction of one duplex (two units) with Habitat for Humanity between 2000 and 2010.

Additional opportunities for re-use and redevelopment are present throughout the County. Numerous vacant and underutilized buildings exist in Borough downtowns and in villages. A few former industrial properties also hold potential for more intensive use. Zoning amendments, where municipal zoning is in place, may be appropriate to enable a wider range or more contemporary list of uses permitted by right, by special exception or by condition in industrial and commercial districts.

Nearly a half million dollars in grants and county funds have been used to improve housing conditions since 2000.

LAND USE PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

As shown in Table 5-5, twelve of the sixteen municipalities have enacted a comprehensive plan. All are older than 10 years, five are older than 20 years, and specifically 4 date to the early to mid-1970s. The most recently enacted municipal comprehensive plan is the multi-municipal Western Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan, adopted by Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton Borough, and Wayne Township in 2001.

Table 5-5 Land Use Planning and Development Tools in Mifflin County, 2012

Municipality	Municipal Comprehensive Plan (Date Enacted)	Zoning Ordinance (Date Enacted, Amended)	Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (Date Enacted)
Mifflin County	1975; 2000	—	1995, 2006
Armagh Township	1999	—	1990
Bratton Township	—	—	County
Brown Township	1971	1973, 2011	2007
Burnham Borough	1973	1973, 2007	1975
Decatur Township	—	—	1994
Derry Township	1997	1997	2000
Granville Township	1994	1998, 2007	1989
Juniata Terrace Borough	—	—	County
Kistler Borough*	2001	1997	County
Lewistown Borough	1990	1954, 2001	2009
McVeytown Borough	2004	2004	County
Menno Township	1998	—	1991
Newton Hamilton Borough*	2001	—	County
Oliver Township	1970	—	1993
Union Township	1976	1969, 1976	1978
Wayne Township*	2001	—	County

Most municipalities have adopted at least two of the planning tools authorized in Pennsylvania.

*Denotes the Western Mifflin Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan.
 Source: Governor’s Center for Local Government Services, eLibrary, www.elibrary.state.pa.us. Accessed: March 16, 2012, again February 11, 2013.

Given Mifflin County’s slow growth over the past 20 years, most of the plans may still provide appropriate policy for community and economic growth and development. For municipalities that are experiencing growth or other community change, review and update of older plans or brief amendments to older plans could help the municipality to address current concerns. Alternatively, municipalities could enact the county plan as their own as a foundation for community and economic development and amend it with a local planning report or “mini-plan” to address local issues and lay out appropriate recommendations.

Whether updating or amending a municipal plan or the county plan, the process is the same. The municipal planning commission or designated

planning agency would prepare a document including a study of one or more local issues and its plan, namely its objective(s) for the preferred outcome of the issues and recommendations to achieve those desired outcomes. The planning commission would hold a public meeting for presentation and comments, revise the report, as needed, and forward the plan and report to the governing body, the public and agencies for review. The governing body would hold a public hearing, again revise the report as needed, and adopt the updated plan as its municipal comprehensive plan, or the amendment to its adoption of the county plan.

Brown Township, where development is active, may benefit most from a current plan that outlines its projected and desired future conditions.

ORDINANCES

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) provides the legal framework for local governments to enact, administer and enforce both zoning ordinances and subdivision and land development ordinances. Zoning is a method a community may use to regulate the use of land and structures and is based in government's responsibility to protect public health, safety, and welfare by guiding land use patterns that are compatible with one another and with the environment. Subdivision and land development regulations manage how land parcels are divided (or unified) and to what standards and specifications that land can be developed.

As shown in Table 5-4, eight of the sixteen municipalities have enacted zoning ordinances. The earliest zoning ordinance was adopted by Lewistown in 1954. Union Township followed suit in 1969, and Burnham Borough and Brown Township, in 1973. All but Union Township have amended their ordinances in the past 12 years. Derry, Granville, and Kistler adopted zoning in the late 1990s, and McVeytown in 2004. Of these, only Granville has made amendments. Zoning for these municipalities is illustrated in Figure 5-8 (countywide) and Figure 5-9 for the developed portions of the County.

Also shown in Table 5-4, ten of the sixteen municipalities have enacted their own subdivision and land development ordinances; the remaining six rely on the County's ordinance, which was last amended in 2006. Four of the County's municipalities amended subdivision and land development ordinances between 2000 and 2010, and are considered relatively current. Seven of the 10 municipal subdivision and land development ordinances were enacted at least 20 years ago and are potentially out of step with current standards and techniques.

Ordinances, too, should be periodically reviewed and updated or amended to regulate development with contemporary and MPC-authorized practices. Where practices are new to municipal officials and their administrative and enforcement staff, they can seek assistance from the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department and their respective associations of elected government officials.

NEW TOOLS ENABLED IN 2000

Acts 67 and 68 of 2000 and Acts 2 and 43 of 2002 made changes and addition to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). Among these, new tools were added to manage land use and development in the Commonwealth. Act 67 specifically authorized multi-municipal planning, which was used by Kistler, Newton-Hamilton and Wayne Township almost immediately.

Two of the three new planning tools authorized in 2000 have been used in Mifflin County.

Act 68 enabled traditional neighborhood development, i.e. “an area of land developed for a compatible mixture of residential units...and nonresidential commercial and workplace uses,...designed to serve the needs of pedestrians and vehicles equally”, to be incorporated into zoning ordinances. Brown Township adopted traditional neighborhood development provisions to facilitate the Quillas Creek project.

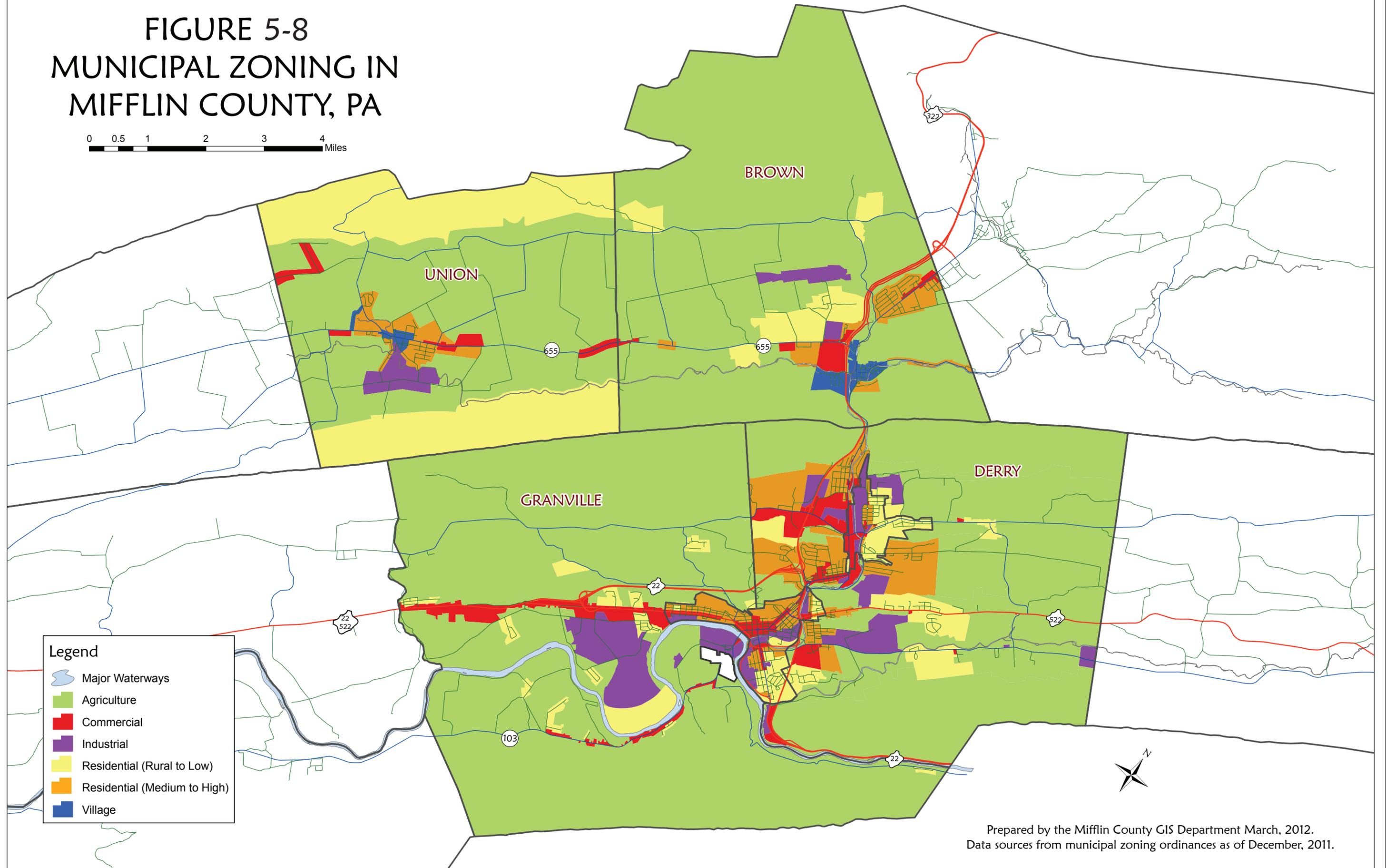
In addition, the MPC had previously authorized the transfer of development rights from a designated sending area to a designated receiving area. In 2000, the MPC was amended to allow a transfer to occur across municipal boundaries where a county or multi-municipal comprehensive plan has been adopted with or without a joint zoning ordinance. This tool is not in use in Mifflin County.

FARMLAND CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION

Counties and municipalities have additional tools at their disposal to promote continued use of the land for agriculture, which produces food, stabilizes the economy, and retains open space for water resource management. The Agricultural Security Law, Act 43 of 1981, enables municipalities to protect farms within designated Agricultural Security Areas from nuisance claims by other land users. Each Agricultural Security Area (ASA) must be at least 250 acres and can cross municipal borders. Parcels included in an ASA are to be re-evaluated every seven years and new parcels may be incorporated at any time. Mifflin County had a total of 40,113 acres of farmland in ASAs in 2012. This represents about 60 percent of lands in agricultural use. Seven year reviews, e.g. to ensure that land is still in active agricultural use, are not common in the County.

FIGURE 5-8 MUNICIPAL ZONING IN MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles



Legend

- Major Waterways
- Agriculture
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Residential (Rural to Low)
- Residential (Medium to High)
- Village

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department March, 2012.
Data sources from municipal zoning ordinances as of December, 2011.

FIGURE 5-9 MUNICIPAL ZONING IN MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department March, 2012.
Data sources from municipal zoning ordinances as of December 2011.

Legend

-  Major Waterways
-  Agriculture
-  Commercial
-  Industrial
-  Residential (Rural to Low)
-  Residential (Medium to High)
-  Village

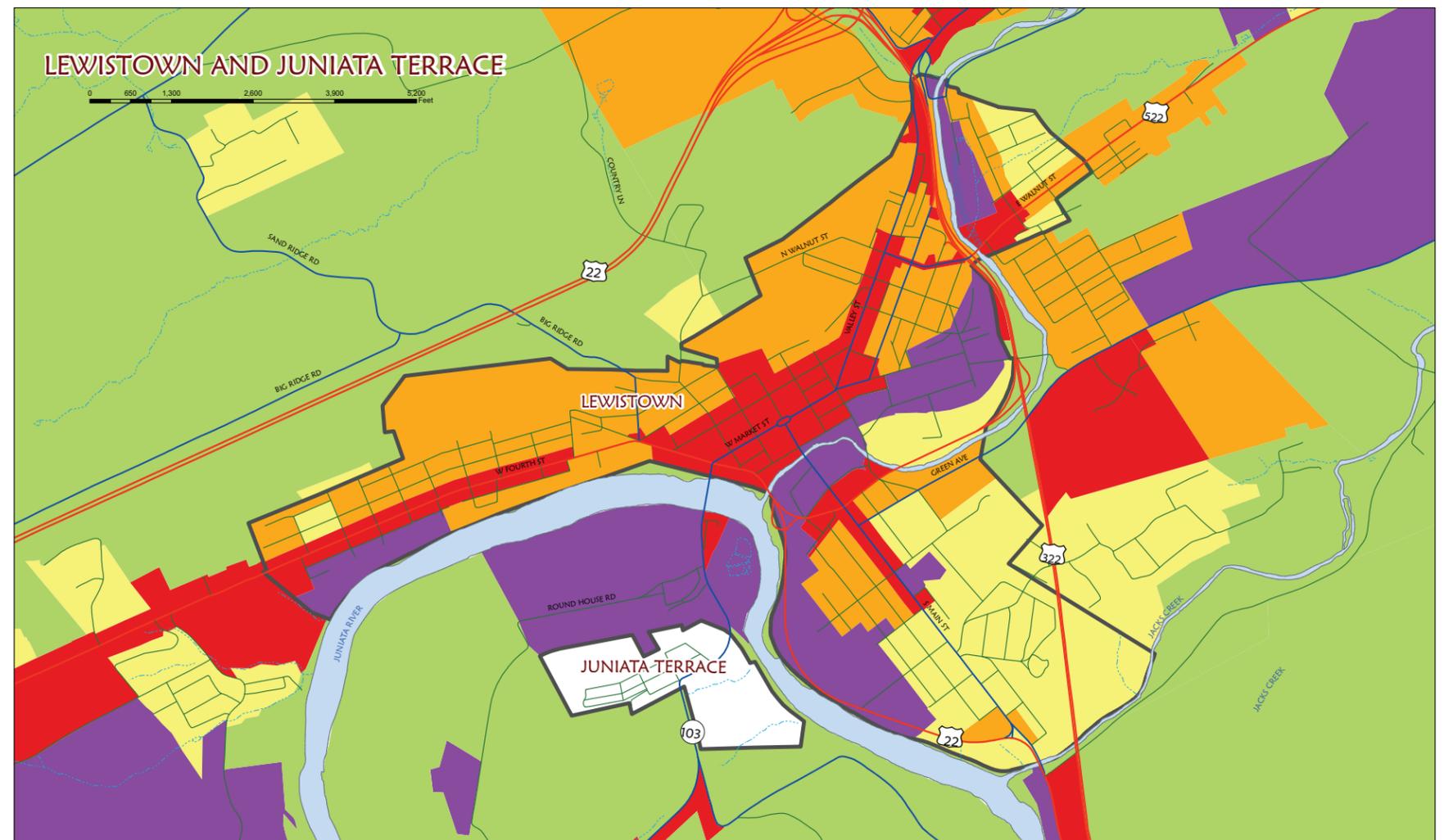
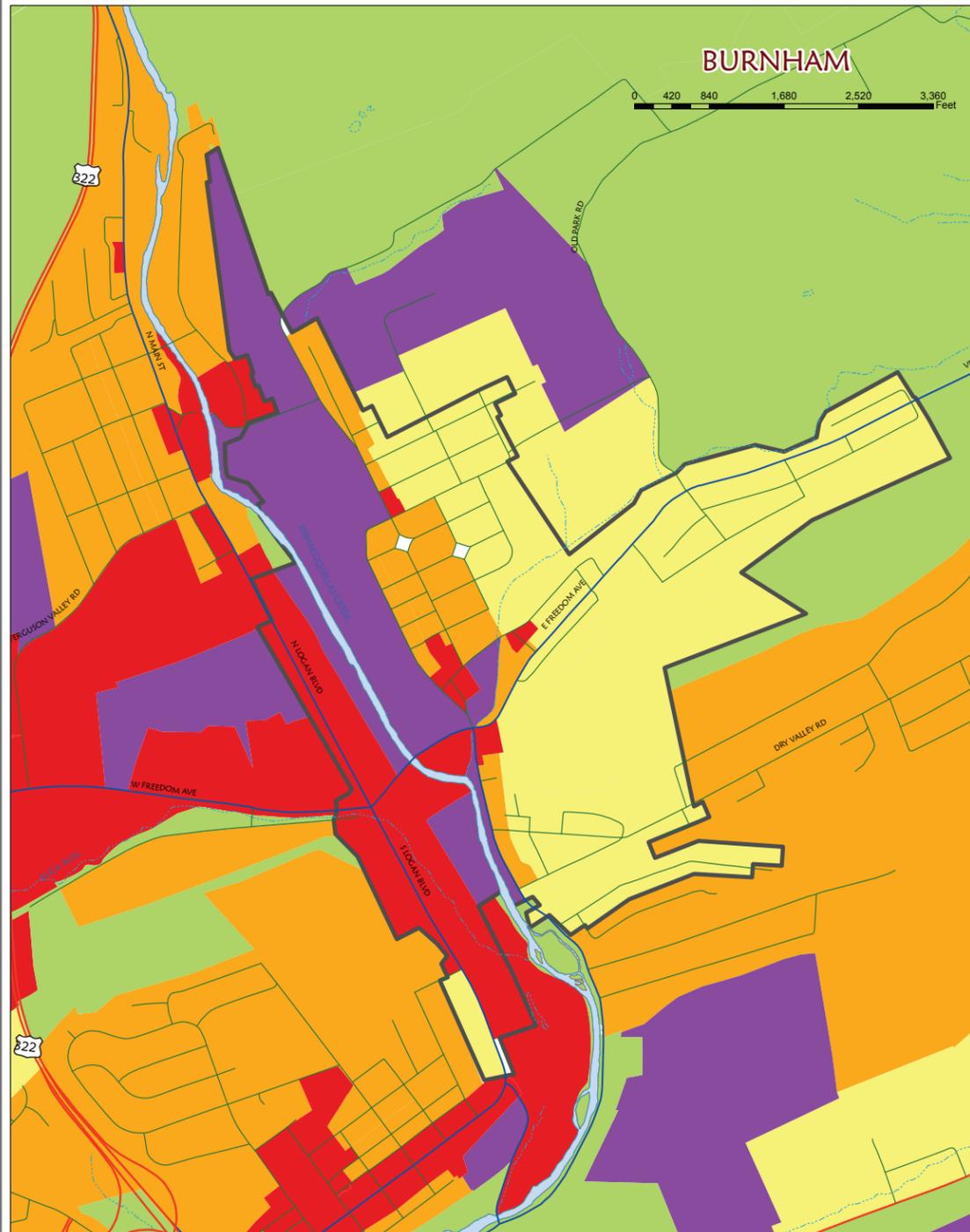
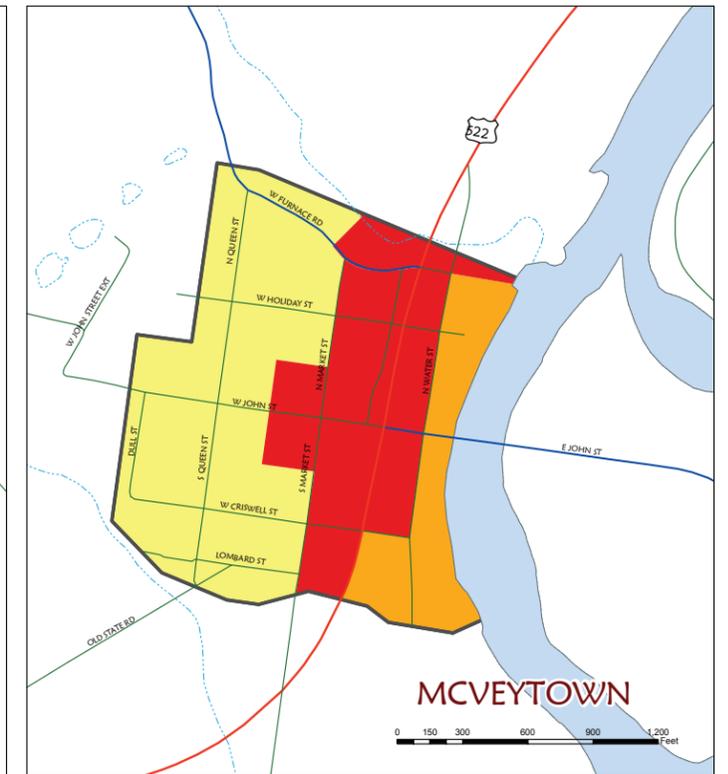
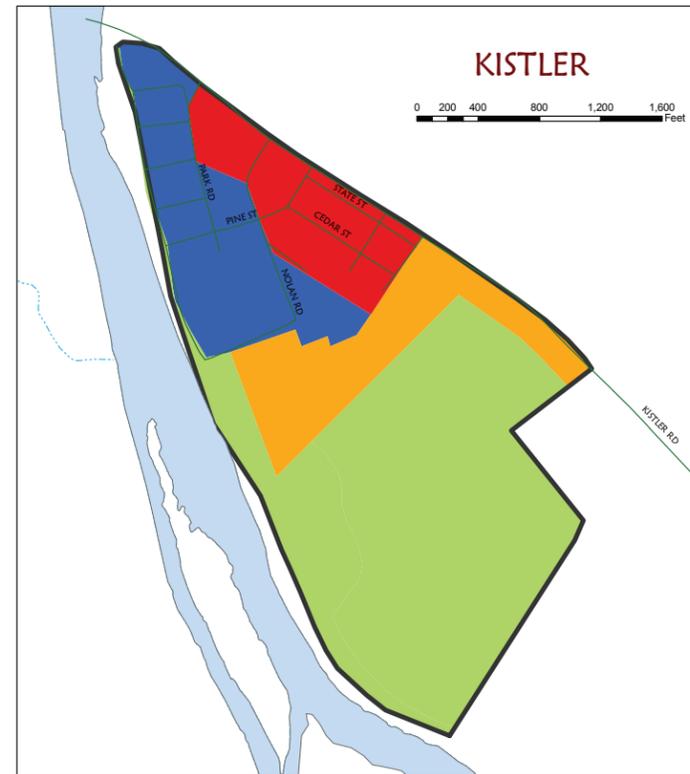
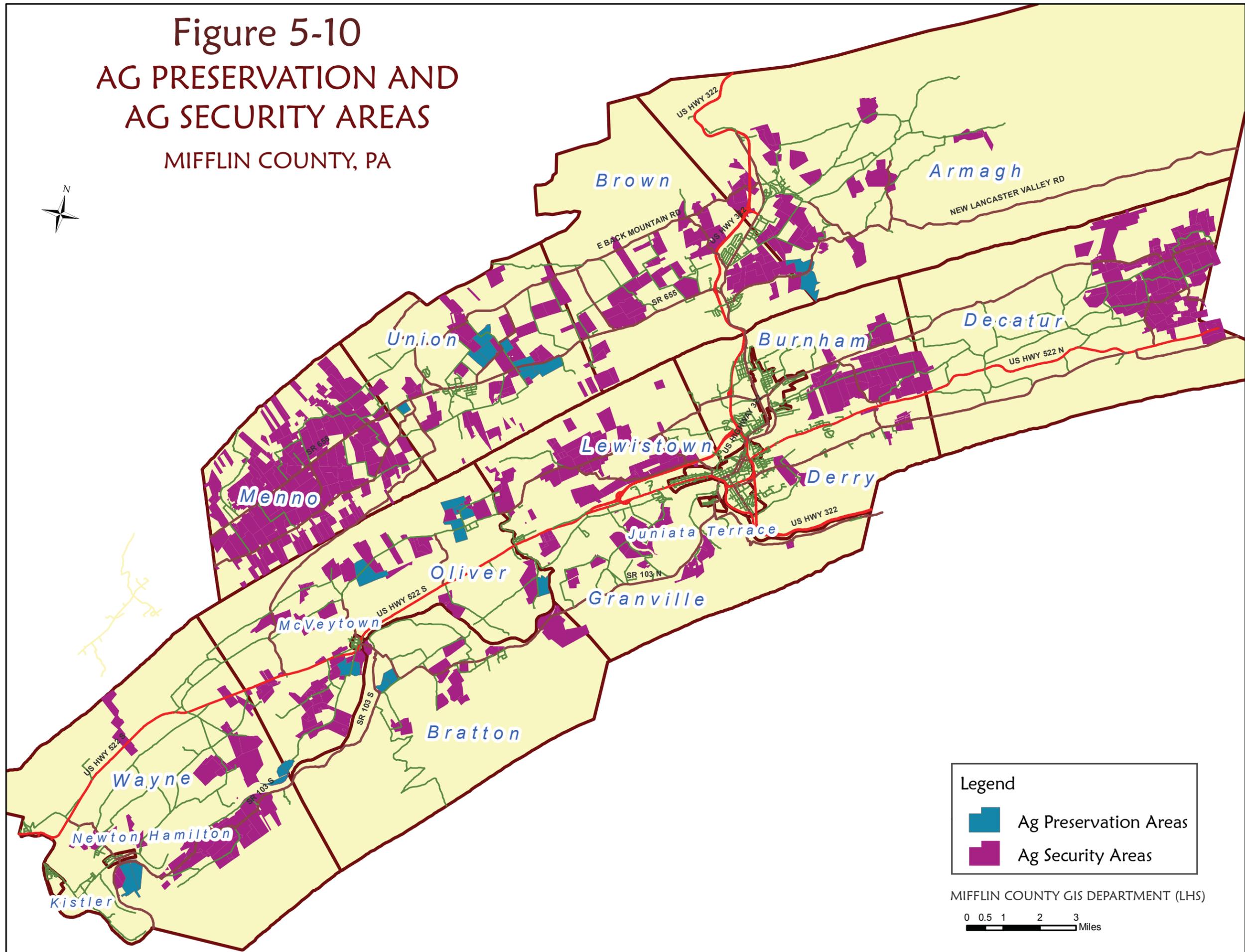


Figure 5-10
AG PRESERVATION AND
AG SECURITY AREAS
MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Legend

- Ag Preservation Areas
- Ag Security Areas

MIFFLIN COUNTY GIS DEPARTMENT (LHS)

0 0.5 1 2 3 Miles

To combat the losses of agricultural land throughout the Commonwealth, the Pennsylvania's state, counties, and local government entities are authorized by the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, Act 149 of 1988, an amendment to the Agricultural Security Law, to purchase the development rights of prime farmland from willing owners; the parcel must be included within an ASA and all other rights remain with the parcel. Since its inception, the state has provided a matching subsidy for county for agricultural land preservation programs.

The Mifflin County Commissioners appointed the Mifflin County Agricultural Land Preservation Board in 1992 in accordance with Act 149. This nine member board is responsible for reviewing and approving applicants to the County's agricultural land preservation program, and providing leadership and support to agricultural land preservation efforts. From 2000 to 2010, the County increased its contribution from approximately \$15,000 in 1999 to \$25,000 (plus interest on Clean and Green rollback) around 2010. Since 1992, 2,295 acres of farmland have been preserved in Mifflin County. This figure represents only about 3 percent of agricultural land and an average farm size of 105 acres. There is a waiting list for the program, since state and county funding is limited. However, limited awareness of the program is also inhibits greater demand for the program.

More than 2,000 acres of farmland is preserved is the County and farmers wish to preserve more.

Figure 5-10 ASA and Ag Preservation Lands shows lands enrolled in the ASA program and Agricultural Preservation Areas (preserved farms) in Mifflin County. Agricultural Preservation Areas are concentrated in Menno Township. Significant, contiguous clusters are also found in Derry and Decatur Townships.

EMERGING LAND USE CONCERNS

While the pace of community and economic growth have been slow to moderate in Mifflin County, there are still concerns about land use planning and management. Planners and zoning officers discussed current land use concerns in the County.

As noted above, several zoning ordinances are decades old. County stakeholders indicated that some ordinances use now outdated standards, definitions, and language, which make them ineffective at managing contemporary development. Some are too complex, difficult to read and a challenge to navigate, thus making it difficult to understand the provisions and to abide by them or to administer and enforcement them. Simpler approaches are needed to manage land use in Mifflin County.

Many lots in the boroughs and villages are smaller than current ordinances allow, resulting in numerous variance requests. Provisions for lot size should be reviewed and revised to retain the scale of development, where such is desired.

Land use issues include:

- **the age and complexity of zoning ordinances**
- **unfamiliarity with zoning**
- **small lots that don't meet minimum lots sizes**
- **lack of property maintenance and**
- **the potential for energy generation facilities in rural areas.**

Property owners and developers are unfamiliar with the zoning ordinances (purpose/need, requirements, and procedures) and building codes in effect in Mifflin County and its municipalities. In addition, they often expect zoning officers to outline the requirements for their specific project without reading the ordinance themselves. McVeytown has undertaken an effort to educate residents about its zoning ordinance through its newsletter. The Planning and Development Department developed a brochure to explain the Subdivision and Land Development process. A similar brochure could be developed to help land owners understand zoning purposes and procedures.

Property maintenance is an issue, i.e. a common complaint, but is not regulated in all municipalities. Where it is regulated, such as in Lewistown, enforcement is generally reactive due the large number of properties. Proactively, the borough makes public service announcements to remind property owners to mow grass and remove weeds but these items do not fully address the issue of well-maintained properties that demonstrate pride in ownership and the community. Juniata Terrace has an annual rental unit registration and inspection ordinance and Lewistown is working on a similar ordinance to improve the quality of commercial and residential rentals.

The development of renewable energy sources, both wind and solar, is being explored in Mifflin County. The potential for wind energy is greatest along higher elevations. Therefore, the ridgeline of Jacks Mountain in Brown, Granville, Oliver, Union and Wayne Townships has been the focus of exploration by energy producers. One wind farm developer expressed interest in the installation of 37 wind turbines that would power an estimated 26,000 homes per year. Based on initial inquires, the turbine footprints, utilities, and access roads would directly impact 100 acres within a larger leased area of 1,200 acres. Additionally, the turbines could affect view sheds, noise, and wildlife. A second wind developer has also begun leasing land and exploring turbine development. Similarly, developers of solar farms have been discussed siting solar arrays in the County. The feasibility and permitting of a wind project could take up to 8 years before a land development plan is submitted. This timeframe provides the County and the targeted municipalities with the opportunity to consider the need for and scope of wind and solar energy ordinance or a more comprehensive energy ordinance. A special study of these types of energy production was

prepared and included as Appendix A. A model ordinance to manage wind energy facilities through a zoning ordinance or a subdivision and land development ordinance was prepared and is included as Appendix B.

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTIONS

Infrastructure intensive uses will likely continue to expand in a relatively concentrated pattern along the US 322 and US 22/522 corridors, their interchanges, and intersections with other state highways. These areas generally have municipal zoning that can guide the location and intensity of development. Overall economic conditions and the availability of financing for public improvements and private construction will influence the pace of development. Dispersed development of small-scale intensive uses will continue throughout the rest of the County. Again, the pace of development will hinge on economic conditions.

Continued development over the next 20 years will likely convert another 2% of the county to residential, business, and supporting uses.

The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department developed future projections for all land use categories (Table 5-6). The residential land use projection reflects three acres per additional resident, which is slightly lower than the actual 3.31 acres per person increase from 2000 to 2010. The commercial and industrial land use projections extend the 2000-2010 growth rate for each category. The public and quasi-public land use projection is 5 percent of the residential, commercial and industrial total; this assumes that some additional demand for public/quasi-public service could be met with existing facilities. The transportation, communication, and utilities land use projection equals 10 percent of the residential, commercial, industrial, and public/quasi-public total. The total increase of these five land use categories was reflected as decreases in agriculture and

Table 5-6 Projected Land Use, 2020 and 2030

Land Use Categories	Acreage			Acreage		
	Total Acres (2010)	Change 1999-2010	Projected Acres (2020)	Change 2010-2020	Projected Acres (2030)	Change 2020-2030
Residential	15,953	1,834	18,815	2,862	20,750	1,935
Commercial	1,295	184	1,602	307	1,869	267
Industrial	1,293	33	1,339	46	1,376	37
Public and Quasi-Public	1,668	-333	1,751	83	1,839	88
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	3,498	703	3,820	321	4,044	224
Agriculture & Open Space	66,484	-2,107	63,638	-2,846	61,632	-2,006
Forestland	173,397	-573	172,624	-773	172,079	-545
Water	2,230	259	2,230	0	2,230	0
Total	265,818		265,818		265,818	

Source: Mifflin County Planning and Development Department

open space and forestland, using their respective 2010 percentages of Mifflin County’s total area.

These projections suggest conversion of more than 6,100 acres of farmland and forestland to:

- more than 2,800 acres in residential land by 2020, followed by another 1,900 acres in the next decade.
- approximately 350 commercial and industrial acres by 2020, followed by slightly smaller acreages by 2030.
- approximately 170 acres of public and quasi-public uses by 2030
- 320 acres of supporting infrastructure by 2020 and another 225 acres by 2030.

The Planning and Development Department also prepared commercial and industrial land use projections for the planning regions (Table 5-7). Additional commercial and industrial lands were allocated across the planning regions according to their 2010 distribution.

Table 5-7 Projected Commercial and Industrial Land Use, 2020 and 2030

	Commercial/Industrial		2010-20		2020-30	
	Acres, 2010 Distribution	Acres, 2020	Change	Acres, 2030	Change	
Mifflin County	2,588	3,045	353	3,354	305	
Planning Regions						
Northwest	356	14%	405	49	391	42
Northeast	802	31%	911	109	1,196	95
Southwest	107	4%	122	15	107	13
SW Central	293	11%	333	40	307	35
S Central	851	33%	968	116	1,016	100
Southeast	178	7%	202	24	186	21

Source: Mifflin County Planning and Development Department



CHAPTER 6

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND UTILITIES ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter inventories community facilities, services and utilities provided to Mifflin County citizens: public safety services, educational services, health care and medical facilities, solid waste services, public water and sewer utilities, stormwater management, and communications power, electric, and natural gas utilities. These services are provided by a variety of entities ranging from county and local government, alone and in partnership, to municipal authorities to and the private sector. Facility and service conditions are noted in each section followed by existing and potential issues associated with the community growth projected in Chapter 2 and the aging of facilities and infrastructure.

PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICE PROTECTION

Police protection ensures a safe and orderly community for local residents and the business community. The traditional role of the police encompasses three functions: (1) law enforcement, (2) maintaining public order and safety, and (3) community service. Mifflin County's citizens are serviced by four police agencies, as shown in Table 6-1. Figure 6-1 illustrates the locations of police stations in Mifflin County.

Local police agencies provide service to 74% of Mifflin County citizens.

Table 6-1 Police Agencies serving Milffin County

Police Agency	Service Area	# of Officers (2012)
Lewistown Borough Police Department	Lewistown Borough	12 full-time 5 part-time
Granville Township Police Department	Granville Township, Juniata Terrace Borough	6 full-time 1 part-time
Armagh Township Police Department	Armagh Township	1 full-time 1 part-time
Mifflin County Regional Police Department	Brown, Derry, and Union Townships, and Burnham Borough	12 full-time
Pennsylvania State Police Troop G from the Lewistown Station in Juniata County and supported by Troop G headquarters in Hollidaysburg	Bratton, Decatur, Menno, Oliver, and Wayne Townships, and McVeytown, Newton Hamilton, and Kistler Boroughs	Not available

Source: Gannett Fleming

The Lewistown Police Department was established in 2010. It received three federal grants in 2013 to address community concerns. A grant from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board grant will be used by Lewistown Police as well as the Mifflin County Regional Police, Granville Police and the District Attorney's office to send a message that underage drinking is preventable. The grant will provide money for education, police training and proactive policing. A grant from the Office of Community Oriented Policing services will be used to hire, rehire, or retain one police officer. A School Resource Officer grant will fund officers assigned to patrol the school buildings within the borough.

The Granville Township Police Department has provided police services to Juniata Terrace Borough since 1983.

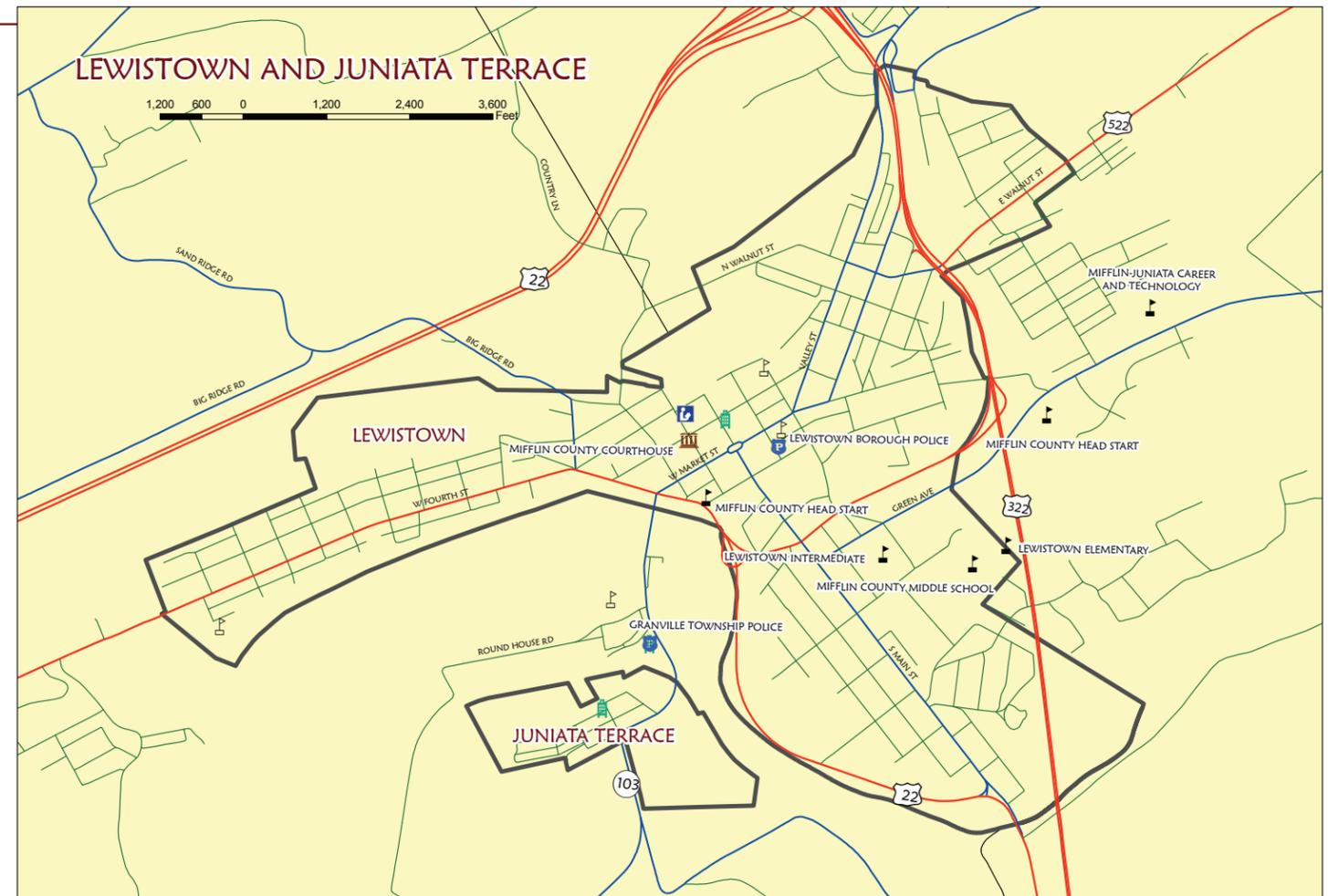
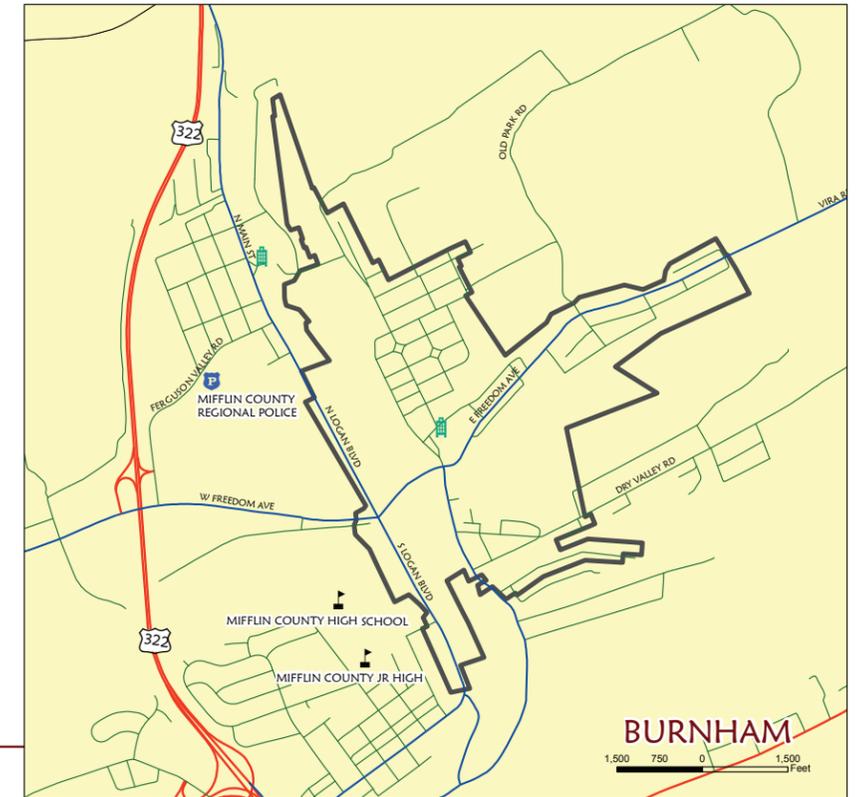
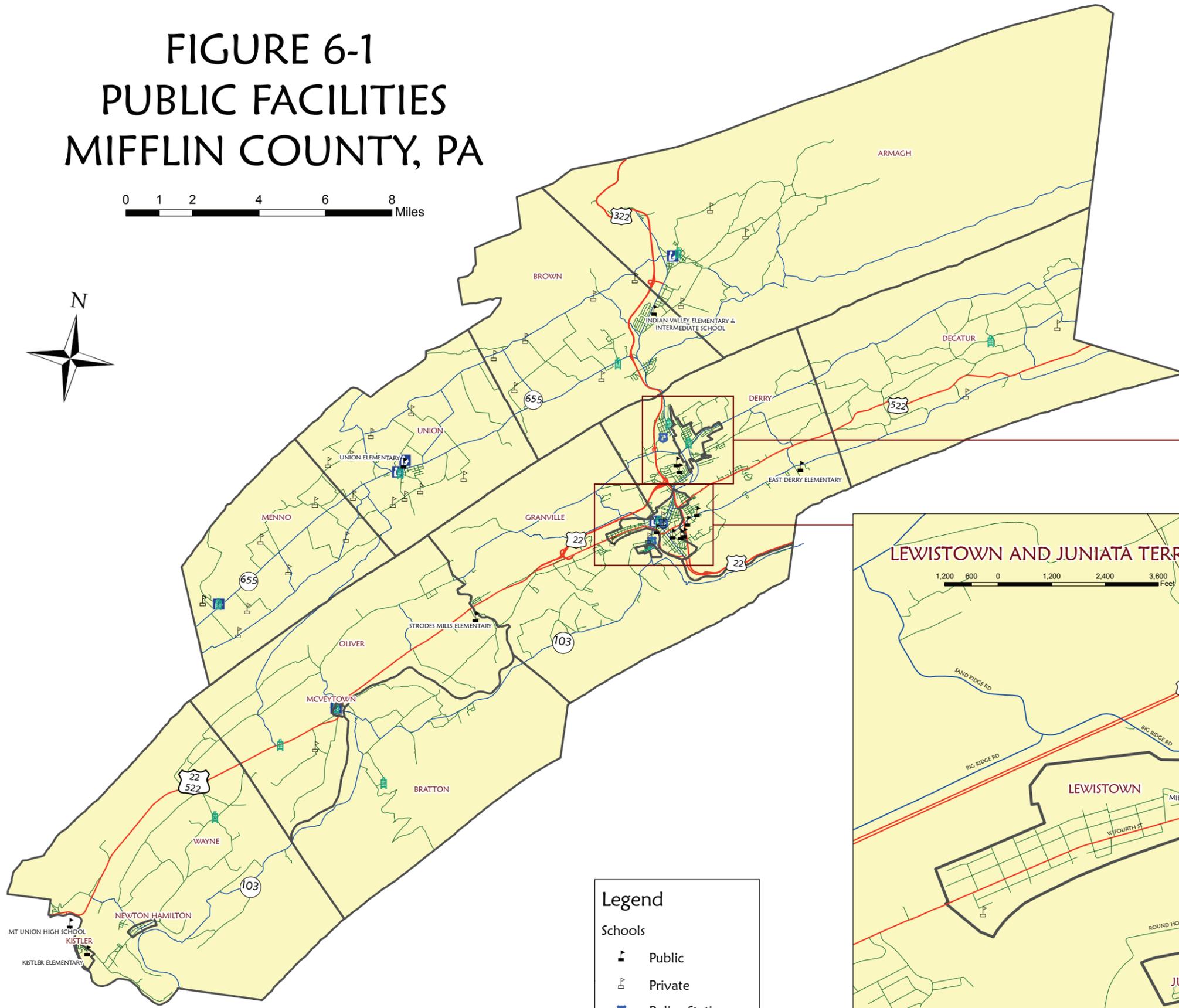
Armagh Township established its police department in January 2013.

The Mifflin County Regional Police Department was established in 1992. Municipal participation in this regional police agency has varied over the life of the organization.

Nearly 3 out of 4 respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life Survey reported police protection as good to fair. There was no majority response in any of the four ratings: 14% excellent, 38% good, 34% fair, 11% poor, 2% don't know. 43% would pay more for improvement. Two of three respondents reported that crime is a moderate to severe problem and 84.5 percent answered that drug and alcohol abuse is a moderate to severe problem.

FIGURE 6-1 PUBLIC FACILITIES MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles



Legend

Schools

- Public
- Private
- Police Stations
- Municipal Offices
- Libraries

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department May, 2012.
Data sources from Mifflin County.

The Pennsylvania State Police force was established in May 1905 as the very first state police agency in the country. The force is divided into 16 troops that serve designated multi-county regions. Troop G serves Centre, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, Bedford, and Fulton Counties and the region's estimated population of 445,575 over 4,700 square miles. Troop G is headquartered in Hollidaysburg and has local stations in Bedford, Huntingdon, Lewistown, McConnellsburg, Philipsburg, and Rockview (Bellefonte). Troop G currently has 293 enlisted and civilian personnel.

State police respond to calls where local police services are not available: 1) in municipalities without local police forces and 2) in municipalities with off-duty part-time police forces. State Police will also respond to emergency calls received by the state police directly from the caller or when assistance is requested by local forces. Such assistance may include personnel, equipment and facilities.

The most commonly reported calls for state police service, regardless of rural/urban distinction, included requests for assistance, collisions, burglaries, thefts, assaults, criminal mischief, and other (e.g., 911 hang-up, disturbance) incidents. Thus, the state police fulfill a call-responsive policing role in municipalities without a local police agency.

Municipalities provide no direct payment or reimbursement to the Commonwealth or the state police in exchange for patrol services. Various fee structures for state police services to municipalities have been suggested but none have received serious consideration in recent years. While municipalities do not need to budget for state police services, they do receive a portion of the fines collected by the state police for non-traffic violations if they have a population of 3,000 or less, or provide at least 40 hours per week of local police service.

In addition to these police agencies, Mifflin County employs a County Sheriff. The sheriff's primary duties are to serve as an officer of the court. The Sheriff performs administrative duties including serving court-issued writs, orders, and notices, executing judgment orders, transporting prisoners, and selling delinquent real estate and personal property. In addition, the Sheriff is responsible for regulations enacted under the Brady Bill, including performing background checks on residents applying for gun permits, investigating gun dealers, and issuing licenses to sell firearms.

The allocation of police resources is often a concern in rural areas where municipal resources are limited. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, more than half of the nation's local police departments (53.0%)

The three local and regional police agencies serving Mifflin County are working together to address local issues.

employed between 5 and 24 sworn personnel and nearly a quarter (22.8%) employed fewer than 5.1 Thus, police agency sizes found in Mifflin County are quite common.

FIRE PROTECTION

According to the Mifflin County Public Safety Office, 19 fire companies serve County citizens. Fire stations and primary service areas are identified on Figure 6-2.

The delivery of fire protection services in Mifflin County is entirely dependent upon volunteer personnel. The practice of volunteer firefighting in Mifflin County and statewide has declined for several reasons, including:

Table 6-2 Fire Companies

Fire Company
1. Allensville
2. Belleville
3. Brooklyn
4. Burnham
5. City Hook and Ladder
6. Decatur
7. East Derry
8. Granville
9. Highland Park
10. Junction
11. McVeytown
12. Milroy
13. New Lancaster
14. Newton Wayne
15. Reedsville
16. Standard Steel
17. United
18. West Granville
19. Yeagertown

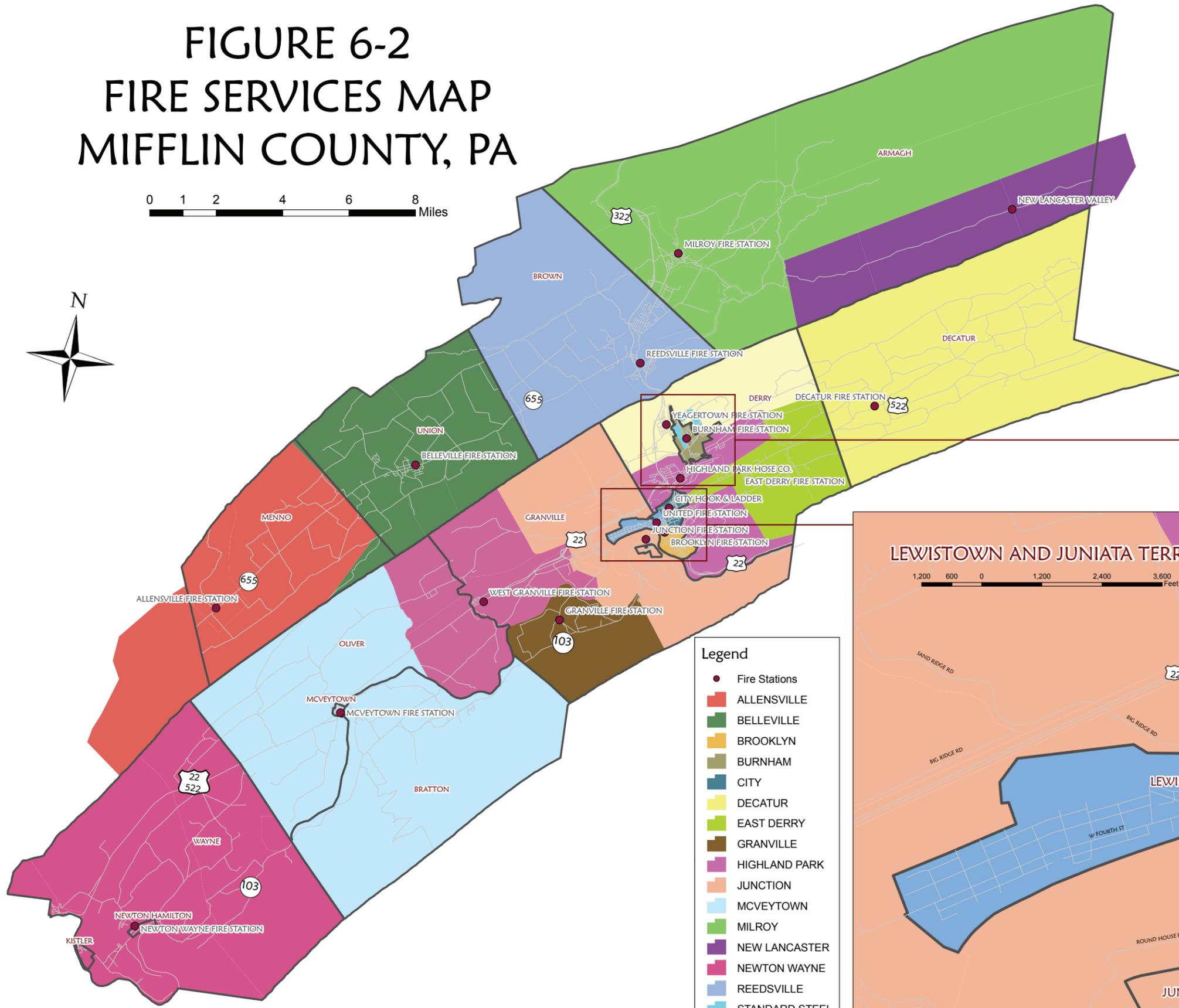
Source: Mifflin County Public Safety Office

- People have more choice in how they spend their leisure time than in the past.
- Firefighter training requires a significant time commitment.
- Near constant fund-raising activities are needed to maintain equipment and facilities, consuming more time than firefighting itself.
- Residents who commute outside of their home community for work are not available for work day response.

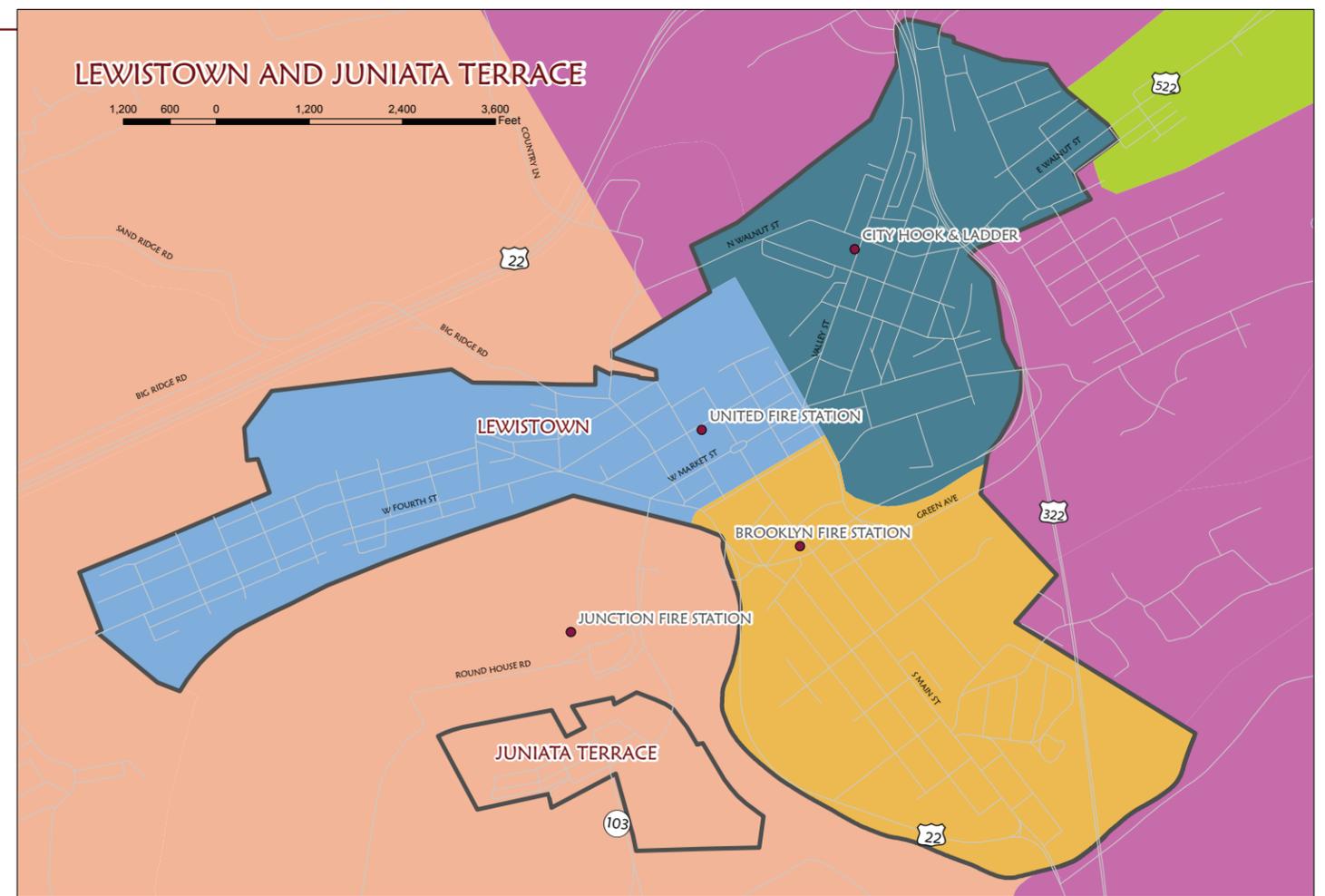
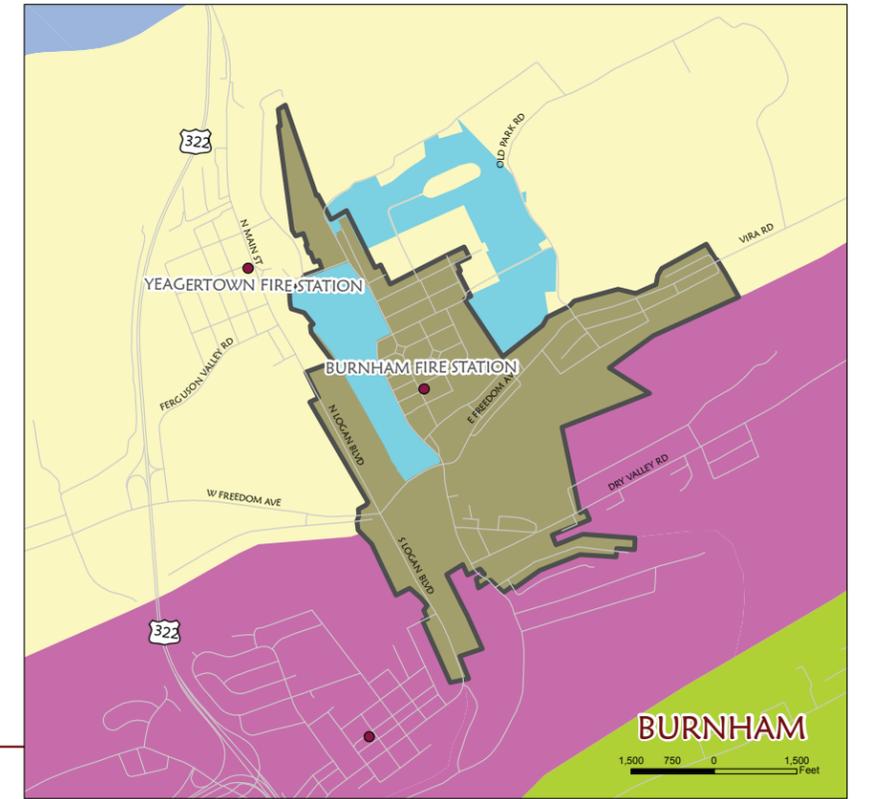
The decline in volunteer firefighters has impacted the effectiveness of fire protection services. Secondary responders are frequently called upon to assist the primary responder, resulting in the duplication of equipment at one incident location and inadequate coverage for the secondary responder’s service area. Thus, as manpower decreases, the response time increases. Since response time is used as a critical indicator to determine the effectiveness of an emergency service provider, and influence insurance rates, it is important for both County and local officials to continually monitor each department’s response times.

¹ Local Police Departments, 2007, Bureau of Justice Statistic, Office of Justice Programs, December 2010.

FIGURE 6-2 FIRE SERVICES MAP MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



- Legend**
- Fire Stations
 - ALLENSVILLE
 - BELLEVILLE
 - BROOKLYN
 - BURNHAM
 - CITY
 - DECATUR
 - EAST DERRY
 - GRANVILLE
 - HIGHLAND PARK
 - JUNCTION
 - MCVEYTOWN
 - MILROY
 - NEW LANCASTER
 - NEWTON WAYNE
 - REEDSVILLE
 - STANDARD STEEL
 - UNITED
 - WEST GRANVILLE
 - YEAGERTOWN



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department February, 2012.
Data sources from the Mifflin County Public Safety Office.

According to the Mifflin County Office of Public Safety, fire protection resources, e.g. equipment, personnel, etc., are not evenly distributed throughout the County. The uneven distribution of resources, coupled with the shortage of volunteer personnel, posed the potential for consolidation of services, tied to response times and service areas.

Fire protection services in Mifflin County are funded through various resources, which include community fund-raising and donations, municipal contributions and financial assistance, state insurance rebates (i.e., out-of-state fee for insurance companies), workman's compensation coverage, and vehicle insurance.

The levying of a local fire tax is a revenue tool available to municipalities to direct funds to their local fire departments. Only four municipalities in Mifflin County currently levy a fire tax, however others support fire protection with monetary donations and insurance, as shown in Table 6-3.

A very strong majority (87 percent) of respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life Survey reported fire protection in their township or borough as excellent to good. There was no majority response in any of the four ratings: 38% excellent, 49% good, 10% fair, 1% poor, and 2% don't know. Still, more than 2 of 5 would pay more for improvement in this service.

Table 6-3 Municipal Financial Support for Fire Companies

Municipality	Annual Contributions and Other Assistance
Armagh Township	assists with insurance and fuel costs
Bratton Township	\$9,000
Brown Township	assists with insurance and equipment costs
Burnham Borough	Fire Tax: 1.0 mils; \$28,000 in 2013 revenue
Decatur Township	Fire Tax: \$25,222.79 in 2013 revenue
Derry Township	Fire Tax: 1.5 mils; \$238,468 in 2013 revenue; rate will increase to 1.75 mils in 2014
Granville Township	Fire Tax: 3.08 mils; \$272,000 in 2013 revenue
Juniata Terrace Borough	Fire Tax: 1.0 mils; \$4,919.88 in 2013 revenue
Kistler Borough	\$500-\$600
Lewistown Borough	Fire Tax: 0.917 mils; \$79,575 in 2013 revenue
McVeytown Borough	\$4,000; assists with insurance
Menno Township	\$2,000-\$3,000
Newton Hamilton	\$600
Oliver Township	\$37,000 split between two companies
Union Township	\$20,000
Wayne Township	\$4,000; assists with insurance

Source: Mifflin County Planning and Development Department

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency medical services serve two types of needs. Emergency ambulance service transports patients from the scene of a medical emergency to a local medical care facility for treatment. Interfacility transports move patients from one medical care facility to another.

Mifflin County is serviced by five emergency medical service agencies providing basic life support (BLS) service and three agencies providing quick response services (QRS). Advanced life support (ALS) service is provided only by FAME EMS. EMS locations and service areas are shown on Figure 6-3. Providers are listed in Table 6-4.

Though some EMS providers have paid staff, many providers are in constant need of qualified volunteers.

Like fire protection services, EMS services in Mifflin County are funded through various resources, which include community fund-raising and donations, municipal contributions and financial assistance, state insurance rebates (i.e., out-of-state fee for insurance companies), workman's compensation coverage, and vehicle insurance.

Respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life Survey were also quite satisfied with ambulance services in their township or borough. Eighty-four percent reported service as excellent to good. Again, there was no majority response in any of the four ratings: 34% excellent, 50% good, 11% fair, 2% poor, and 4% don't know. About one third of respondents would pay more for improvement.

Table 6-4 Emergency Medical Service Providers

	Basic Support (BLS)	Life	Quick Response Service (QRS)	Advanced Life Support (ALS)
Big Valley Ambulance Co.	✓			
McVeytown Ambulance Co.	✓			
Milroy Ambulance Co.	✓		✓	
Mount Union EMS	✓		✓	
FAME EMS	✓			✓
Decatur Fire Co.			✓	

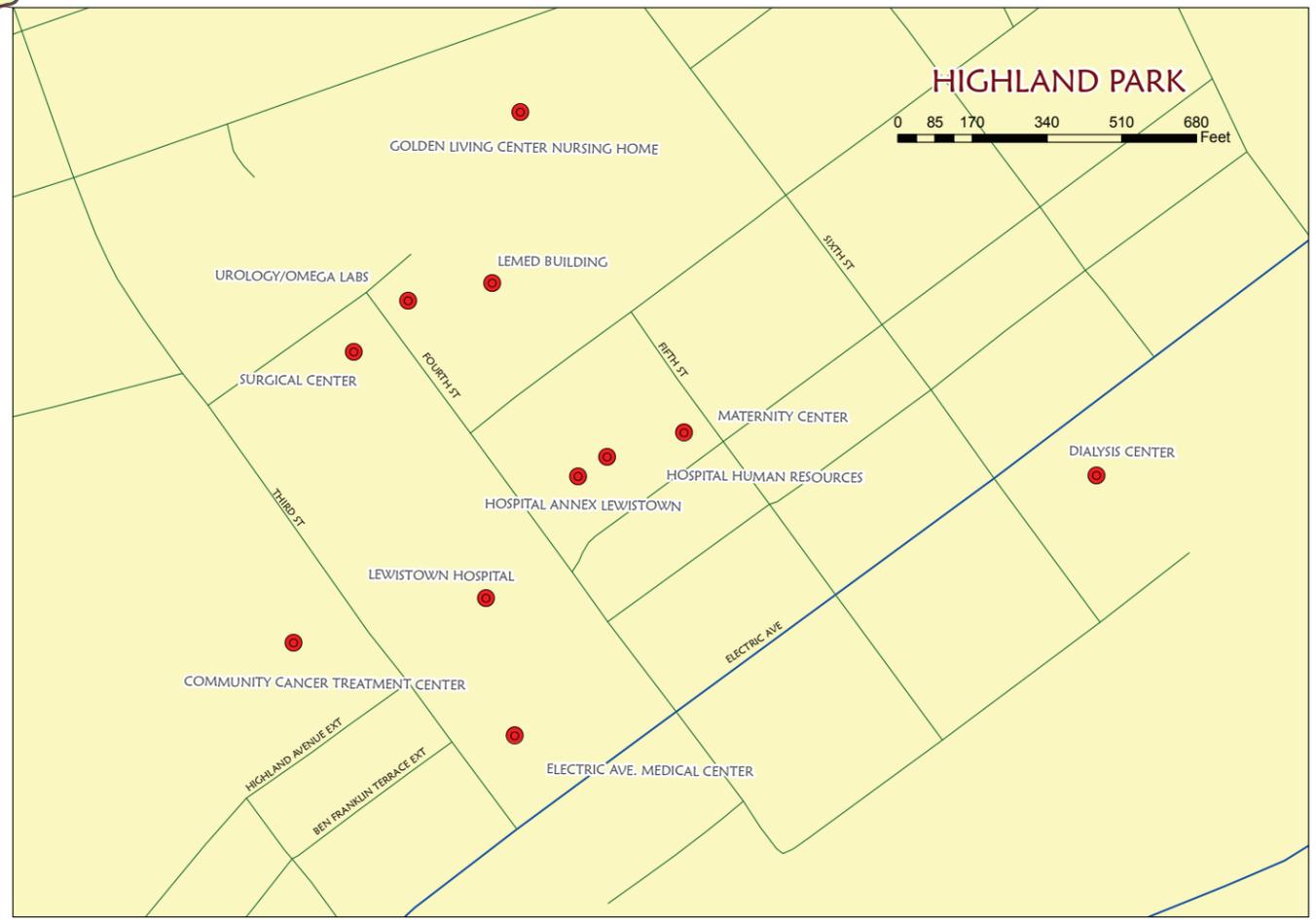
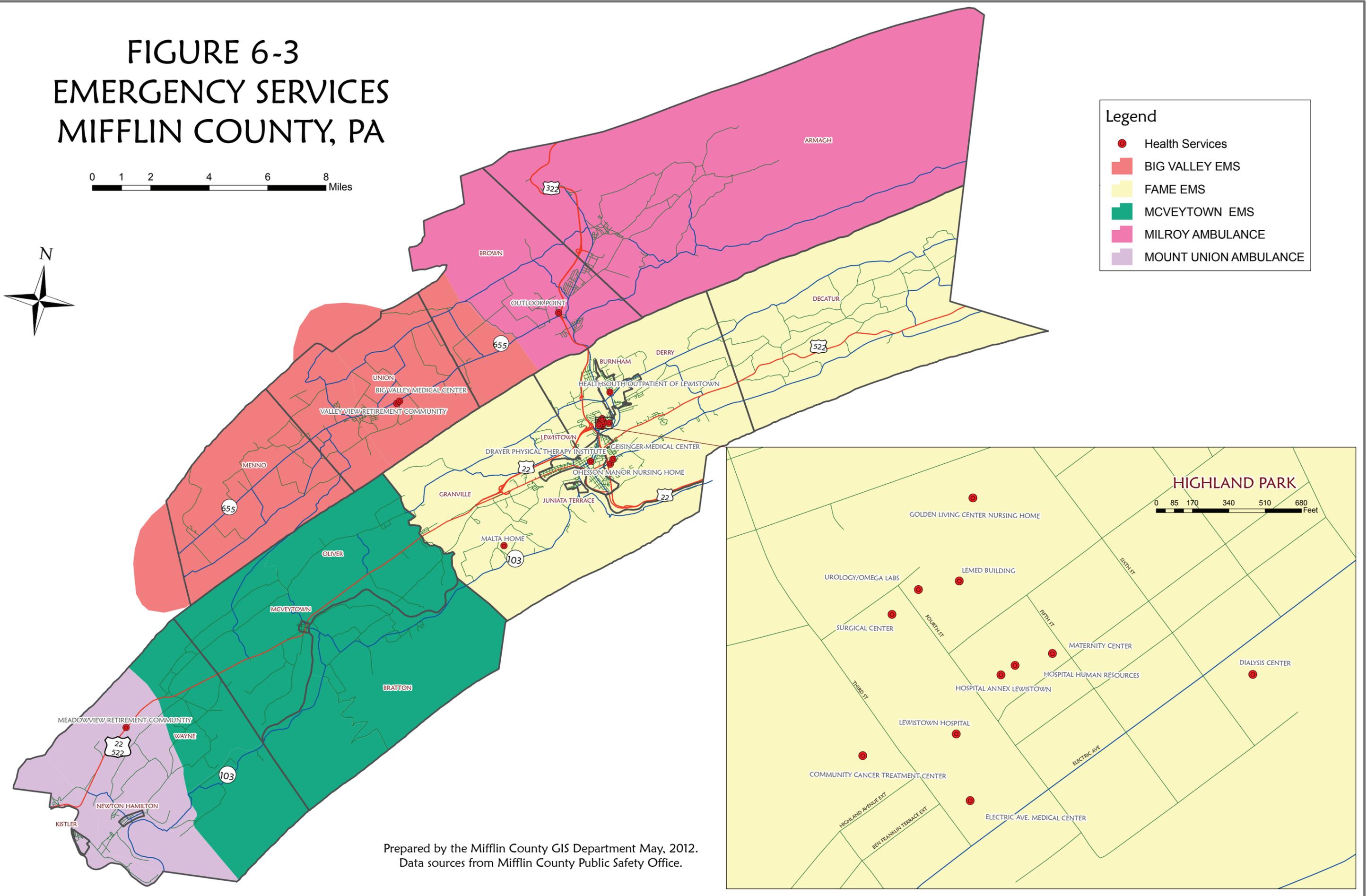
Source: Mifflin County Public Safety Office

FIGURE 6-3 EMERGENCY SERVICES MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Legend

- Health Services
- BIG VALLEY EMS
- FAME EMS
- MCVEYTOWN EMS
- MILROY AMBULANCE
- MOUNT UNION AMBULANCE



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department May, 2012.
Data sources from Mifflin County Public Safety Office.

The Seven Mountains Emergency Medical Services Council is contracted through the Pennsylvania Department of Health to coordinate emergency medical service programs within a four County area of Centre, Clinton, Juniata and Mifflin Counties. Seven Mountains acts as the liaison between the Department of Health and the area's EMS providers on issues such as training, ambulance licensure, receiving facility accreditation, medical command authorization, treatment and transfer protocols, mass casualty preparation and coordination, quality assurance, and complaint investigation.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code (35 Pa. C. S. Section 7101-7707) requires that all counties and municipalities develop and maintain an emergency management program consistent with state and federal programs. Each county and municipal program is administered by an emergency management coordinator, appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of county and/or municipal officials and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

In Mifflin County, the Office of Public Safety fulfills the emergency management duties, including supervising and coordinating activities of the County's emergency management agency with state and federal Homeland Security agencies, the emergency communications center (911) and contracted hazardous materials (haz-mat) response team.

In Pennsylvania, an offsite emergency response plan is required for each Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) site storing extremely hazardous substances and other chemicals in quantities greater than established thresholds. The off-site plan ensures that the resources of responders are adequately used to mitigate an incident at a facility. Each offsite emergency plan becomes a supplement to the County emergency operations plan. Mifflin County has 18 SARA EHS planning facilities, each having a plan filed with the County's emergency management office.

The Mifflin County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been updated with adoption anticipated in 2014. The Office of Public Safety and the Planning and Development Department are responsible for its maintenance and implementation. The plan outlines actions designed to address and reduce the impact of a full range of natural and manmade hazards facing Mifflin County. The top four hazards affecting Mifflin County are flooding, severe winter weather, wildfire and radon exposure. Manmade hazards were also addressed, including transportation accidents, hazardous materials spills, and civil disorders. Recommended actions include improving county and local capabilities to respond to

hazards, intergovernmental cooperation, spatial data, and public awareness of hazards, potential impacts and readiness/response.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Over the past several years, the Mifflin County Information Technology Department has implemented new programs and services in the interest of public safety.

- The Special Needs Registry, which allows citizens with disabilities to register with the Office of Public Safety for special consideration and/or assistance during emergencies.
- The Inmate Lookup Database, which allows citizens to view a list of current inmates and provides access to historical data on those previously incarcerated.
- GIS Web Mapping, which allows citizens to view GIS and mapping data online using the most up-to-date information available.
- Mifflin County Municipal Area Network (MCMAN), a fiber optic networking serving Lewistown Hospital, Mifflin County School District, Mifflin County Government offices.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Mifflin County School District provides public educational services to nearly all of Mifflin County. Students from western Mifflin County attend the Mount Union School District.

MIFFLIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Mifflin County School District operated 10 facilities in the 2012-2013 school year, as listed in Table 6-5. The district employed 412 administrative and professional personnel and 220 non-professional personnel serving 5,292 students.

In 2011, the district consolidated the Indian Valley and Lewistown High Schools into a new high school facility, closed three other building, and re-organized the grade levels in the remaining facilities. The district closed the Union Township Elementary School after the 2012-2013 school year.

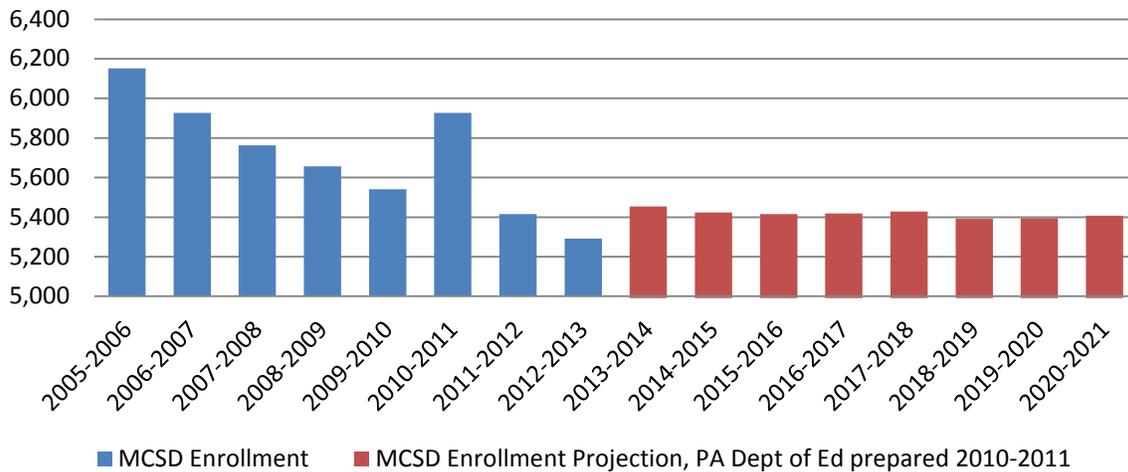
As shown in Figure 6-4, the overall student enrollment in the Mifflin County School District declined by 860 students from 2005-06 to 2012-13, or about 120 students per year. The school district expects declines to continue at a slightly slower pace of about 90 students per year.

Table 6-5 Mifflin County School District Facilities

Facility	Address	Grades	Enrollment, 2012-2013
Mifflin County School District			
Mifflin County High School	501 Sixth Street, Lewistown	10-12	1,210
Mifflin County Junior High School	700 Cedar Street, Lewistown	8-9	835
Mifflin County Middle School	2 Manor Drive, Lewistown	6-7	897
Indian Valley Intermediate School	125 Kish Road, Reedsville	4-5	215
Lewistown Intermediate School	212 Green Avenue, Lewistown	4-5	608
East Derry Elementary School	2316 Back Maitland Road	K-3	285
Indian Valley Elementary School	125 Kish Road, Reedsville	K-3	360
Lewistown Elementary School	1 Manor Drive, Lewistown	K-3	632
Strodes Mills Elementary School	185 Chestnut Ridge Road	K-3	214
Union Township Elementary School (closed in 2013)	95 N Penn St, Belleville	K-3	61
Total			5,292
Mifflin Juniata Career and Technology Center	700 Pitt Street, Lewistown	10-12	355

Source: PA Department of Education; MCSD website

Figure 6-4 Mifflin County School District Enrollment History, 2005-06 to 2012-13, and Projections, 2013-14 to 2020-21



Source: PA Department of Education

Enrollment projections prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Education based on enrollment history, birth and retention rates through the 2010-11 indicate a stabilized student population of 5,400 students through the 2020-2021 school year (also Figure 6-4).

Declining enrollments accompanied by rising operating costs of personnel and technology and aging facilities have been a financial challenge to the school district. Regardless of enrollment, the district serves students spanning an area of more than 400 square miles. High-speed internet access for every school – in fact for every student - is a goal but is not yet available. As a result of these pressures, the school board decided to close 5 schools in 2011. As these pressures continued, closure of the Union Township Elementary School followed in 2013.

The Mifflin Juniata Career and Technology Center in Lewistown offers 10 primary workforce preparation courses for students in grades 10 through 12 from the five Mifflin County and Juniata County school districts:

- Agriculture Technology
- Auto Mechanics
- Buildings Trades Maintenance
- Collision Repair
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Early Childcare Education
- Electrical Installation
- Medical Science
- Precision Machining

It also offers adult education, including a practical nursing program and culinary arts program. Enrollment in 2012-2013 was 355.

Post-secondary education goals among County high school graduates are rising but still well below the state average.

GRADUATION RATES AND POST-SECONDARY PURSUITS

Historically graduation rates in Pennsylvania measured how many students registered in the 12th grade class met the graduation requirement by the end of the school year, regardless of what year they entered 9th grade. Effective with the 2009-10 school year, the department and schools are now required by the U.S Department of Education to use the 4-year cohort formula, which reports successful completion of graduation requirements within four years and typically results in a lower graduation rate (percentage).² The two rates should not be compared, since they reflect different measures.

In addition, prior to the 2011-12 school year, Mifflin County had two high schools and two graduation rates. As a result of the consolidated high school, a single graduation rate for the Mifflin County High School is now reported. The 2011-12 graduation rate (4-year cohort formula) for Mifflin

² The leaver formula reflects the percentage of students graduating in a given year. The 4-year cohort formula reflects the percentage of students graduating within four years based on their year of entry into the ninth grade. While the 4-year cohort formula typically results in a lower percentage since some students will take more than four years to graduate, it is important to note that the formulas are not comparable.

County High School was 85.5 percent. The 2012-13 graduation rate (4-year cohort formula) was 84.3 percent.

Of the 382 graduates in 2012, 57.1% were bound for post-secondary education. Most (44% of all graduates) were college bound; others were headed for non-degree or specialized associates degree granting institutions. This total figure was significantly lower than the state average of 73.9%. In 2013, the Mifflin County percentage rose to 66.5%; the 2013 statewide average was not available as of April 17, 2014.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SUPPORT

During interviews and Planning Advisory Committee meetings, James Estep, Superintendent, reported that the district networks within the educational system, e.g. pre-K education providers, emergency services, and business and industry to informally assess educational needs in the community. He also noted enhanced public relations efforts including an updated website and occasional radio spots to keep the community informed of the trends the school district is monitoring. He also expressed interest in working more closely and aggressively with County and municipal partners to affect funding at the state legislative level, and with community foundations and corporate sponsors to expand local funding.

Respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life survey expressed strong support (moderate to high priorities) for improved communication between residents and school district administrators (87 percent), after high school job training/education opportunities (82 percent), and retain/expand schools, if needed (65 percent). A majority rated improved communication as a high priority, and a near majority (46 percent) rated after high school opportunities a high priority. Opposition to retain/expand schools increased from 2 percent in 1998 to 9 percent in 2011—a modest increase given the closure of five schools in the district. Overall, evaluations of public education were more positive in 2011 than in 1998.

The Mifflin County Education and Scholarship Foundation, is a nonprofit community foundation, funds special projects, programs, technology, and college scholarships for students of the public school system.

MOUNT UNION AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT (SERVING WESTERN MIFFLIN COUNTY)

The Kistler Elementary School of the Mount Union (Huntingdon County) School District serves the Western Mifflin County area, i.e., Wayne Township, Kistler Borough, and Newton Hamilton. The school's 2012-2013 school year enrollment was 298 students in kindergarten through 6th grade

The capacity to sustain this public service is affected by state funding cut backs, the slow national economy, and state/local political sentiment toward education.

Table 6-6 Mount Union Area School District Facilities

Facility	Address	Grades	Enrollment, 2012-2013
Mount Union Area School District			
Mount Union Area High School	706 N Shaver Street, Mount Union	9-12	473
Mount Union Area Junior High School	706 N Shaver Street, Mount Union	7-8	241
Kistler Elementary School	154 School Street, Mount Union	K-6	298
Mapleton-Union Elementary School	13606 Smith Valley Road, Mapleton Depot	K-6	159
Shirley Township Elementary School	14188 2 nd Street Mount Union	K-6	384
Total			1,572
Huntingdon County Career and Technology Center	11893 Technology Drive, Mill Creek	9-12	344

Source: PA Department of Education; MUASD website

(Table 6-6). After elementary school, students from this region attend the Mount Union Junior High School for grades 7 and 8, and the Mount Union High School for grades 9 through 12. Approximately 42% of the district’s 1,515 students reside in Mifflin County.

Mount Union High School students may attend Huntingdon County Career & Technology Center, offering courses in 13 subject areas:

- Animal Science
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Health Occupations
- HVAC and Refrigeration
- Plumbing and Heating
- Construction Trades
- Electrical Occupations
- Metalworking and Welding Occupations
- Automotive Body Repair
- Horticulture
- Automotive Mechanics
- Computer Servicing Technology

The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit (IU #11) based in McVeytown support both school districts. Services provided include curriculum planning, instructional materials, continuing professional education, and special education to all local schools. The IU receives funding through both the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the local school districts.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Mifflin County is home to numerous private educational facilities, many of which serve the Amish and Mennonite communities. The largest private schools are the Belleville Mennonite School, the Back Mountain Amish School, the Sacred Heart Catholic School, the Mifflin County Christian Academy, and the Rock Haven Christian School. Each had more than 50 students in the 2012-2013 school year. Of the smaller schools, 22 had enrollments of 25-50 students; 8 had 10-24 students, and 2 had less than 10 students. Enrollments for all private schools are provided in Table 6-7.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Residents' higher education needs are supported by a variety of degree granting colleges, universities, and technical schools located throughout central Pennsylvania. These include Penn State University in State College, Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Juniata College in Huntingdon, Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, and the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, which is an affiliate of Penn State University.

Locally, the South Hills School of Business and Technology offers degree programs in business, technology, healthcare, law and justice, and graphic arts, as well as professional development courses in downtown Lewistown. The 2011-2012 enrollment was approximately 90 students in all programs.

Table 6-7 Private School Enrollments , 2012-2013

Institution	Elementary Enrollment	Secondary Enrollment	Total Enrollment
Belleville Mennonite School	115		115
Back Mountain Amish School	26	68	94
Sacred Heart of Jesus School	86		86
Mifflin Co Christian Academy	46	28	74
Rock Haven Christian School	56		56
Valley View Christian School	33	14	47
Barefoot School	28	11	39
Barrville Amish School	31	8	39
Woodland Amish School	27	12	39
Sunnyview School	29	9	38
Gospel Light School	36		36
Coffee Run Private Parochial School	29	5	34
Hollow View School	31	3	34
Poplar Grove School	31	3	34
Allison Gap School	28	4	32
Green Gate Amish School	32		32
Meadow View Amish School	27	5	32
Shady Grove Amish School	28	4	32
Sunnyside Amish School	29	3	32
Beth-El Christian Day School	31		31
Kish Creek School	28	3	31
Mountain View Amish School	30	1	31
Soft Run School	26	4	30
Waynesburg Amish School	30		30
White Hall Amish School	28	2	30
Green Lane School House	24	3	27
Orchard Side School	22	3	25
Clearview Amish School	23		23
Shady Acre School	22		22
Church Lane Amish School	18	4	22
Stony Hill School	17		17
Decatur Amish Parochial School	13		13
Cedar Crest Baptist Academy	11		11
County Line School	9	1	10
Hickory Grove Special School	10		10
Saddlers Run School	6		6
Hill Top Special Ed School	2		2
Total	1,098	198	1,296

Source: PA Department of Education

Institutions of higher learning provide education, advance research and industrial innovation, and fuel the local economy.

The Penn State Learning Center, a University collaborative between Penn State Outreach and Penn State Cooperative Extension, offer a range of University resources in Lewistown. Roughly 350 students are enrolled in credit and non-credit courses each semester and more than 5,000 persons visit the center for education programs, meetings, and special events each year.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, located in Lewistown, is the Commonwealth's center for fire, rescue, and hazardous materials training, which is provided free-of-charge to Pennsylvania fire departments and their members.

The Mifflin Juniata Career and Technology Center also offers adult education, including a practical nursing program.

The Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing was established in 2005 and offers two- and three-year programs in nursing. Following the successful completion of the program, graduates receive a diploma and are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. The school also offers a program track for licensed practical nurses to become registered nurses through course and challenge exams. There are currently 42 students (juniors and seniors).

LIBRARIES

Public library services are provided through the Mifflin County Library System, which is part of the Central Pennsylvania District Library Consortium. The Mifflin County Library is based in Lewistown and includes two branch libraries, the Kish Branch in Belleville and the Rothrock Branch in McVeytown. The library system offers a variety of services including, but not limited to interlibrary loan, audio/video lending service, Internet and fax service, computer services, summer reading, and adult programs. Additional library services available to the public include the Mifflin County Law and Historical Libraries. The library system is funded through County tax dollars and state aid, as well as support from the United Way of Mifflin-Juniata and Friends of the Mifflin County Library.

The former Allensville branch closed in May 2013 and reopened as the Community Library of Menno/Brady serving Menno Township, Mifflin County and Brady Township, Huntingdon County. Volunteers staff the library Tuesday through Thursday from 2pm to 8pm and Saturday from 9am to 2pm – a total of 24 hours each week. Approximately 180 patrons

have access to the library's book and video collections, its four computing stations, and its Wi-Fi network. Volunteers have been able to staff circulation services and are seeking help with cataloging the library and maintaining the technology. New computers are needed.

The Milroy branch also closed in May 2013. There is local interest in re-opening this facility.

Respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life Survey rated libraries more favorably than public education countywide. In both cases, a majority rated services good to fair (80 percent for public education; 78 for libraries) but 9 percent rated libraries as excellent and only 4 percent gave public education an excellent rating. Overall, evaluations of public education and libraries were more positive in 2011 than in 1998.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

The citizens of Mifflin County are serviced by several medical facilities and independent providers (Table 6-8).

Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital is a 123-bed acute care community hospital serving the 80,000 residents of Mifflin and Juniata counties and surrounding areas. The hospital provides inpatient, outpatient, wellness and community services. It employs over 1,000 full-time and part-time employees, including a medical staff of 128 physicians and allied health practitioners, who provide most of the basic healthcare services such as, primary care, general surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics/gynecology, cardiology, oncology, pulmonology and urology. The hospital is an avid sponsor and partner to community health education classes and events, and as a result of the School of Nursing, uses no agency or temp nurses.

The Geisinger Health System merged with the Lewistown Hospital in 2013. Geisinger is based in Danville, PA and serves the Danville/Bloomsburg, Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, State College/Port Matilda and now Lewistown areas.

Several specialty care physicians in the areas of OB/GYN, Oncology, Podiatry, Neurology, Pediatrics, and Surgery remain independent practitioners. In addition, University Orthopedics offers a comprehensive range of orthopedic care in Lewistown. In 2013, Penn State Hershey Medical Group opened an office in Lewistown for cardiology services.

Primary Health Network opened the Lewistown Community Health Center in January 2014. The Center was developed to provide greater access to medical care for people who are uninsured or

Table 6-8 Health Care Facilities and Home Health Care Services

Facility	Location	Capacity	Ownership
Hospitals			
Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital	Lewistown	123	Profit
DaVita Lewistown Dialysis Center	Lewistown	14	Profit
Meadowview Manor Rehab Services, Inc.	McVeytown	n/a	Profit
Mifflin County Community Surgical Center	Lewistown	n/a	Profit
Drug & Alcohol Facilities			
Clear Concepts Counseling	Lewistown	220	Profit
Pyramid Healthcare	Belleville	26	Profit
Home Care Agencies			
Care For People/Care For People Plus	Reedsville	n/a	Profit
Community Resources For Independence, Inc.	Lewistown	n/a	Profit
PRN Medical Staffing Of Lewistown, Inc.	Lewistown	n/a	Profit
UCP Central Pa	Lewistown	n/a	Profit
VNA Private Duty, Inc.	Lewistown	n/a	Profit

Source: PA Department of Health; provider websites

underinsured. This facility will give this population a medical home for preventative care and minor emergencies, providing more effective care

for the patient that is less costly care on the health system. The Center will process Medical Assistance, Medicare, and most insurances. Sliding fee billing based on income is available to those who qualify, regardless of insurance status. A Life Sciences Campus has been proposed in Derry Township in conjunction with a federally qualified health network operated by Primary Health Network.

Other nearby hospitals include the Mount Nittany Medical Center in State College, the Mount Union Area Medical Center in Mount Union, the J C Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, and the Evangelical Community Hospital in Lewisburg.

More than 3 in 4 respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life Survey reported satisfaction with medical doctors, dentists, emergency medical care, and prescription drug service. Hospital services followed closely at 71 percent satisfied. Satisfaction ratings for medical doctors, emergency medical care, and hospitals all increased from 1998 to 2011.

DRUG & ALCOHOL FACILITIES

Clear Concepts Counseling in Lewistown offers outpatient services to serve those in the community with addictions and mental health issues (also Table 6-8).

Pyramid Healthcare in Belleville offers 18 inpatient non-hospital drug-free and 8 partial hospitalization drug-free treatment and care for adult and teen alcohol and drug abuse, as well as treatment for individuals with mental health disorders and adolescent behavioral problems.

HOME HEALTH AGENCIES

Home Health Agencies provide health care services to ill, disabled, or vulnerable individuals in their homes or places of residence, enabling them to live as independently as possible. These services include:

- Nursing Services
- Home Health Aide Services
- Physical Therapy Services
- Occupational Therapy Services
- Speech Therapy Services
- Medical Social Work Services

All home health agencies (HHAs) in Pennsylvania are licensed by the Department of Health to provide care within the minimum health and safety standards established by rules and regulations. The Department enforces the standards by conducting initial and periodic, unannounced state licensure surveys of these agencies.

There are no independent home health agencies in the county, though similar services may be provided by other health care providers.

HOME CARE AGENCIES

Home care agencies and home care registries provide non-skilled services to individuals in their homes or other independent living environments. These services include:

- Assistance with self-administered medications
- Personal care such as assistance with personal hygiene, dressing, and feeding
- Homemaking such as assistance with household tasks housekeeping, shopping, meal planning and preparation, and transportation
- Companionship
- Respite care such as assistance and support provided to the family; and
- Other non-skilled services

Total Life Care Home Care Services of Lewistown is the County's only licensed home health care agency. This agency is both Medicare and Medicaid certified.

NURSING HOMES

Four nursing homes in the county offer a total of 417 beds for long term nursing care (Table 6-9). All four accept private payment, as well as Medicare and Medicaid. Nursing hours per resident per day range from 2.95 to 4.32 according to the PA Department of Health.

Golden Living Center-William Penn Nursing Center, Lewistown, has 121 beds and is near capacity. It offers short and long term care, including dementia & Alzheimer’s care and coordinates additional services with community providers. It currently has no future plans for expanding its current facilities.

Malta Home Retirement Community, a Nursing and Rehab Center located just off Route 103 in Granville Township, merged with Valley View Retirement Community effective January 1, 2006. Its campus includes 15 residential cottages and 40 skilled nursing beds. Malta Home. Valley View is proceeding with plans to close the nursing facility and transfer the 40 licensed nursing beds to a new addition to be built at Valley View Retirement Community. Consturction is scheduled to begin in June 2014 and to be completed by July 2015. At that time, the nursing beds will be transferred and the skilled nursing unit at Malta Home will be closed.

Ohesson Manor, a Diakon Lutheran Senior Living Community in Derry Township, consists of The Village at Ohesson, a community of duplex and townhome-style homes to fit varying needs and lifestyles homes for senior

Table 6-9 Medical Facilities and Services

Facility	Type Of Ownership	Capacity	Services
			Nursing Beds
Golden Livingcenter-William Penn	Profit	121	Short Term Care, Dementia & Alzheimer’s Care, Long Term Care
Malta Home Retirement Community	Non-Profit	40	5 residential cottages 40 skilled nursing beds
Ohesson Manor, a Diakon Lutheran Senior Living Community	Non-Profit	134	104 beds skilled care 30 beds dementia unit 32 residential cottages
Valley View Retirement Community	Non-Profit	122	95 beds personal care suites 122 beds skilled care 118 residential cottages

Source: PA Department of Health; provider websites.

living, and Ohesson Manor, a nursing and rehabilitative center for those with Alzheimer's disease and similar illnesses. The nursing and rehabilitative center has 134 beds and is 93% occupied.

Valley View Retirement Community, located in Belleville, provides residential and long term care services to seniors in the "Big Valley" of Mifflin County. Its 31-acre campus has 118 residential living cottages, 79 personal care suites, and 122 skilled nursing beds.

A constant issue for these facilities is the task of assessing the various service needs of the County's aging population, such as the need for special care services, continuing-life care service, and assisted and independent living quarters.

2013 HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

While health care facilities and services are available in Mifflin County. The Mifflin Juniata Human Services Needs Assessment found numerous health indicators, demonstrating that residents may not have sufficient access to quality health care.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

Mifflin and Juniata Counties have several underlying socio-demographic characteristics that impact many of the health indicators in this report. Both counties face a growing elderly population, increased numbers of people living in poverty, and an increased number of people with limited or no health insurance. A significant number of people have limited education and technical qualifications thus limiting their job opportunities.

HEALTH INDICATORS

Several Mifflin County health indicators fail to meet the state and national benchmarks and present opportunities for improvement. These indicators include: obesity, physical inactivity, smoking and the teen birth rate. The County ranks 35 out of 67 counties in Pennsylvania for health behaviors.

- The 9 municipalities outside of the Greater Lewistown area and the Route 322 corridor qualify as medically- underserved area. Access to primary care, mental health providers and dentists in Mifflin County lags behind national benchmarks (ratio of providers to residents).
- Heart disease, cancer, and stroke are the leading causes of death in Mifflin County and are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems in the United States.

- Mifflin County failed to meet the national benchmarks for obesity and physical inactivity in children and adolescents. Specifically, the obesity rate for adolescents in grades 7-12 was 49.5 percent (2012). Nutritious food assistance is available only in the Greater Lewistown area.
- A significant number of women did not receive any prenatal care in the first trimester.
- From 2007 to 2009, Mifflin County saw slight increases in alcohol, smokeless tobacco, and marijuana use, and binge drinking.
- The Abuse Network hotline in Lewistown receives between 600 and 800 calls annually, and staff members are available 24 hours a day to answer calls or to provide an in-person response to victims.

EMERGING PRIORITIES

Regarding access to health care:

- Increase the percentage of insured
- Increase resources to pay for healthcare services
- Increase the number of healthcare providers to raise the availability of receiving appropriate services
- Regarding the quality of healthcare:
 - Decrease the length of time it takes to see a healthcare provider
 - Increase satisfaction with physician office hours and physician
 - Decrease the length of waiting time in the physician's office or the hospital emergency department
 - Increase the ability to find a physician that accepts all health insurance plans
- Regarding healthy lifestyle choices and the overall health of the community:
 - Increase the opportunities to participate in community events that encourage physical activity
 - Change cultural norms around diet and exercise
 - Increase opportunities to provide education about healthy food choices
 - Address specific youth risk behaviors, including teen pregnancy, use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs, and violence prevention

PARKS AND RECREATION

RECENT ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

In 2010, Mifflin and Juniata Counties completed a Greenway, Open Space, and Rural Recreation Plan. The plan explores the status of parks, recreation, greenways, trails, and open space and recommends strategies and actions to enhance these assets for current and future generations.

The plan cast the following vision and goals related to recreation:

Vision: By 2019...Recreation will be a hallmark of the Juniata and Mifflin County area as a well-known tourism destination. Recreation will help our citizens and visitors to engage in active recreational pursuits that contribute to their own health and wellness as well as to the healthy economy in the region.

Goal 1: Preserve the scenic rural character of Juniata and Mifflin Counties through open space conservation.

Goal 2: Connect the Counties and the region beyond through a network of greenways and trails.

Goal 3: Foster and promote recreation opportunities to advance active healthy lifestyles year round for people who live, work, and visit here.

Goal 4: Organize and manage open space conservation, greenways, and rural recreation through partnerships for the greatest public benefit and responsible use of resources.

Goal 5: Invest in open space, parks, and recreation to enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens and contribute to the economic vitality of Juniata and Mifflin Counties.

PLAN FINDINGS

Recreation options in Mifflin County range from state-, county- and municipal-owned lands to private facilities. These facilities constitute 67,756 acres of recreational land for active and passive recreation and are open on a year-round, full-time or part-time basis. An inventory of public park and recreation facilities in the County is provided in Table 5-4 of the Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan.

There are 25 municipal parks on 334 acres in Mifflin County. Municipal parks are clustered in the center of the County in the population centers along the Juniata River, Kishacoquillas Creek, and in Belleville. Of the 16 municipalities, 13 have one or more municipal parks. These parks range from large community parks such as Derry Township Community Park in Derry Township or Lewistown Recreation Park to small playgrounds like

Newton Hamilton Park in Newton Hamilton Borough.

Private recreation site numbers and acreage are much larger – 32 sites on 2,732 acres; these sites tend to be activity-focused and/or limited to members. Private parks (mostly owned by non-profit organizations) total 9 on 87 acres. Golf Courses 3, on 527 acres. Campgrounds 19, on 1769 acres. Fish and Game Clubs 1 (Mifflin County Sportsmen’s Association), on 349 acres. School sites offer additional recreational lands, when available for public use.

The plan’s public input process, which included a community survey, found the following:

- Recreation in the great outdoors is a hallmark of the bi-county region. State forests, parks, and game lands offer major outdoor recreation opportunities that are important for residents and visitors alike. Nature based recreation including hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, hiking, cycling, nature enjoyment, wildlife watching, and other activities are at their finest here. Citizens ranked public forests, natural areas, playgrounds, and picnic areas as the top four recreation facilities or opportunities in the Counties.
- Walking paths, recreation programs, and indoor recreation are important to over half of the respondents from Mifflin County. About 65 percent of the respondents from Mifflin County rated smaller close to home parks and nature preserves as their most preferred park types. More than three out of five respondents from Mifflin County also rated large regional and community parks as important.
- Close to home parks are limited and there is not enough parkland to meet the recreation needs of the existing and projected population. Although the Counties are blessed with significant state-owned recreation and conservation lands, additional local parkland and recreation facilities are needed. The challenge here is that municipalities have small populations and lack resources to undertake the planning, development, and operation of public recreation systems
- Taking care of existing facilities and maximizing their use is preferable to building new facilities.
- Regarding the quality of parks and recreation facilities,
 - Three in four Mifflin County residents rated the parks as clean.
 - Over half rated the recreation programs favorably.

- One in two has an overall favorable impression of the parks in Mifflin County.
- The variety of facilities (35%) and safety (32%) had the lowest ratings.
- Local parks and organized recreation programs rely heavily on community organizations and volunteers. Since there are no municipal or county parks and recreation departments, as expected in this rural area, organizations such as the United Way, Communities That Care, YMCA, and community sports leagues provide community recreation programs and services. These community organizations are an invaluable asset. The Juniata Valley YMCA in Burnham Borough provides the only indoor swimming pool within 60 miles.
- Health issues related to the lack of physical activity are a major issue in Juniata and Mifflin Counties and citizens of all ages with varied interests should have access to programs and services. Year-round recreation should be a priority.

The plan advocates that recreation can improve health and wellness among citizens, expand tourism spending (time and dollars), and diversify amenities that attract and retain business. It recommends more parkland, land and water trails, and bikeways, as well as broader recreation programming, including:

- Three regional parks and more municipal parks, e.g. Fort Granville Heritage Park in Granville Township
- New river access between the Newton Hamilton and Granville accesses.
- Development of the Juniata River Water Trail
- Extension of the Main Line Canal Greenway and natural creek- and ridge-based conservation greenways
- Programs and awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities for people ages 18 to 45.
- Programs that create active healthy life styles and family connections. Move from sports and summer activities into year round opportunities in music, arts, and social activity.
- An environmental education system.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Park and program recommendations are being implemented. The Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council (MCPRC) was established in 2011 and has been working successfully with the support of Mifflin County Planning and Development and the United Way of Mifflin-Juniata. The Committee has begun work on three projects: a boat launch on the Juniata River, a dog park in Derry Township, and the sustainability of the Mifflin County Playground program. MCPRC has secured three PA Recreation and Park Society grants, negotiated partnerships, secured state technical and financial assistance, obtained professional design services, and is negotiating land donations. Completing these three projects successfully is important as they will be highly visible, help to define success for multi-municipal partnerships (doing together what they cannot do alone), and spark future vital parks and recreation initiatives.

Other opportunities to advance recommendations include:

- Developing programs for tweens.
- Exploring how the School District and the County can work together on parks and recreation, safe routes to schools, bicycle trails, and programs for active healthy living to deal with pressing health care issues. The Mifflin County School District has undergone major changes since the Plan's preparation both in physical plant and administration, and notably has appointed a representative to the MCPRC.
- Identifying ways to "package" the county for heritage, eco-, and outdoor recreation tourism – all varieties of place-based tourism, featuring resources and history of the community.
- Supporting basic facility maintenance in a rural county where municipal staff and budgets are small.
- Dedicating seed money, such as a county funding program, as local match for external grants for parks, recreation and open space.

See the Greenway, Open Space, and Rural Recreation Plan for additional details.

Respondents to the 2011 Quality of Life Survey reported recreational opportunities in their township or borough as good to fair (69 percent total) and generally better than in 1998.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 101 of 1988, requires counties to develop formal plans for managing municipal wastes. Municipal solid waste is waste generated from residential, commercial, industrial office/lunch room, institutional, and community activities. In accordance with the Act, each County must ensure 10 years of available disposal capacity and work toward the state's recycling goal of at least 35% of municipal wastes.

The Mifflin County Solid Waste Authority (MCSWA, or Authority) is a key service provider in offering waste transfer and disposal services to Mifflin and Juniata County residents and businesses, and in providing recycling services in Mifflin County. The Authority is also the agency delegated by Mifflin County to perform solid waste planning duties.

The Authority closed its Barner Landfill in Derry Township in 2005, and opened its Transfer Station and Recycling Depot the same year. In accordance with PADEP requirements, the landfill was closed and capped, and is now in a long-term post-closure care monitoring period.

Approximately half of the Transfer Station and Recycling Depot is dedicated to waste handling, and the other half to recyclables processing.

The Authority conducted a Wastestream and Revenue Assurance Study in 2009. The study identified strategies to maximize waste deliveries and secure revenues for the Authority's Transfer Station that will sustain its long-term viability. The Authority implemented multiple strategies in 2009-2010, and continues to manage facility assets and operations.

In 2011 the Mifflin and Juniata Counties executed a joint resolution to prepare a Regional Municipal Waste Management Plan. A pre-final draft of the Regional Municipal Waste Management Plan for Mifflin- Juniata Counties was prepared in accordance with PADEP requirements in 2012. Several important plan components are being finalized and incorporated in the Regional Plan, which will be submitted for County adoption and for PADEP approval by the end of 2014. Since this plan is defined as a "Substantial Plan Revision" by PADEP, the plan is subject to formal public comments and municipal ratification, prior to final approval by PADEP. The expected start date for the plan's implementation is January 1, 2015.

Important data and statistics presented in the Regional Plan include:

- The total amount of municipal waste (excluding construction/demolition waste and special handling wastes) generated in Mifflin and Juniata Counties in 2012 was nearly 44,000 tons. The quantity

of municipal waste generated in the 2-county region has grown steadily since 2010.

- The majority of Mifflin County and Juniata County municipal waste is hauled directly to the Authority's Transfer Station by two contracted waste haulers, small haulers, and individual homeowners. The facility permit was renewed in 2010 for a 10-year period, through April 2020.
- In 2012, over 97% of the municipal waste generated in the 2-county region was disposed of at the Laurel Highlands Landfill per Waste Management's contract, with smaller percentages disposed at the Sandy Run Landfill, the Cumberland County Landfill, and the Lycoming County RMS Landfill.
- The Authority's Transfer Station reported 80 tons of leaf and yard waste processed at their facility in year 2012. Generally, leaf and yard waste within Mifflin County is transported to the MCSWA Transfer Station for processing. In addition, several other municipalities within the Region reportedly collect leaves (Burnham, and McVeytown Boroughs, Derry, Union and Brown Townships); tonnages collected are unavailable.
- Over 50 recycling drop-off containers are available at over 30 locations (public, institutional, and commercial) in Mifflin County. The Authority's Transfer Station also includes recyclable material drop-off containers. Recyclables accepted include newspaper, general mixed paper (including magazines), scrap metal, clear glass jars, brown glass jars, tin food containers, aluminum food/ soda cans, corrugated cardboard, plastic #1 and #2 bottles, rechargeable batteries, CFL bulbs, yard waste (leaves, grass and brush), used tires, and white goods (appliances). The Authority has a PADEP permit to conduct an electronics recycling drop-off program.
- Both waste disposed, ultimately at the landfill, and waste diverted to recycling are projected to increase through 2024.
- As of the pre-final draft, key elements of the Regional Plan include:
- The synchronization of contracts and agreements related to municipal waste management in the region.
- Recognition of the MCSWA and the Authority's Transfer Station and Recycling Depot as a central municipal waste management and recycling service provider in the 2-county region.
- Implementation measures to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the Authority and its facilities, such as new contracts for entities delivering waste to the transfer station over the ten (10) year planning period and large volume discount contracts.

- Execution of contracts with multiple disposal facilities for the provision of disposal capacity over the ten (10) year planning period for municipal wastes generated by Mifflin and Juniata Counties, including conventional wastes, construction/demolition wastes, dewatered sewage sludge/ biosolids, infectious/chemotherapeutic wastes, and similar “special handling” types of municipal waste.
- Continuation of recycling services in Mifflin County.
- Various strategies to clean up existing illegal dumps and prevent new illegal dumps.

PUBLIC WATER SERVICE FACILITIES

Six public water utilities and six small water systems serve about 64% of Mifflin County residents with domestic water, as listed in Table 6-10. The locations of plants and representative service areas are shown on Figure 6-5.

The largest system is the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown (MABL). Four of the five small water systems, e.g. serving mobile home parks and apartments, are located near to MABL’s service area and could be connected into the Lewistown system. Funding is being sought to connect the Hillside Terrace Mobile Home Park. In the western part of the County, the Mount Union system could play a similar role.

The remaining systems are scattered, which limits physical interconnection and/or incorporation. These water systems could, however, benefit from cooperative administrative and management alternatives.

An in-depth analysis of these community water systems is provided in the Mifflin County Water Supply Plan.

The infrastructure of all water systems is aging and the repair, rehabilitation and replacement of water lines is expensive. Service providers have an obligation to existing users to maintain and, where necessary, rehabilitate existing water lines. For example, MABL maintains nearly 300 miles of pipeline for nearly 11,000 customers. Its historical data shows an estimated cost of \$45 per foot to replace aged waterlines, or about \$250,000/mile, using its staff from construction. MABL notes that contractor services often double project costs of this kind. The cost of maintenance can be a deterrent to service expansion.

MABL is open to serving future development in the county. However, the cost of service extension can be prohibitively high. MABL does not maintain capital reserves for advance service extension. Instead, it accepts

the dedication of private developer-constructed lines for service. If public water service is necessary to guide future development to desired locations, a plan for water service extension to prioritized locations, along with a funding strategy, would need to be prepared.

Table 6-10 Public and Community Water Systems and Population Served

System	Service Area	Population Served
Public Water Systems		
Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown (MABL)	Lewistown, Juniata Terrace, and Burnham Boroughs, urbanized portions of Derry, Granville, Armagh, Brown, and Union Townships	27,892
Allensville	Allensville, Menno Township	305
Hawstone	Shawnee area of Granville Township	80
McVeytown	McVeytown and adjacent areas of Oliver Township	460
Mount Union	Kistler and Newton Hamilton Boroughs and urbanized portions of Wayne Township	480
Subtotal		29,217
Small Community Water Systems		
Elsessers Mobile Home Park	Granville Township	75
Forest Hills Apartments	Granville Township	170
Hillside Terrace Mobile Home Park	Derry Township	70
Meadowview Manor	Wayne Township	47
North Hills Mobile Home Park	Derry Township	170
Subtotal		532
		29,749
Total		Estimated 64%

Source: MABL 2012 report; <http://www.actionpa.org> citing May 2005 data

WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

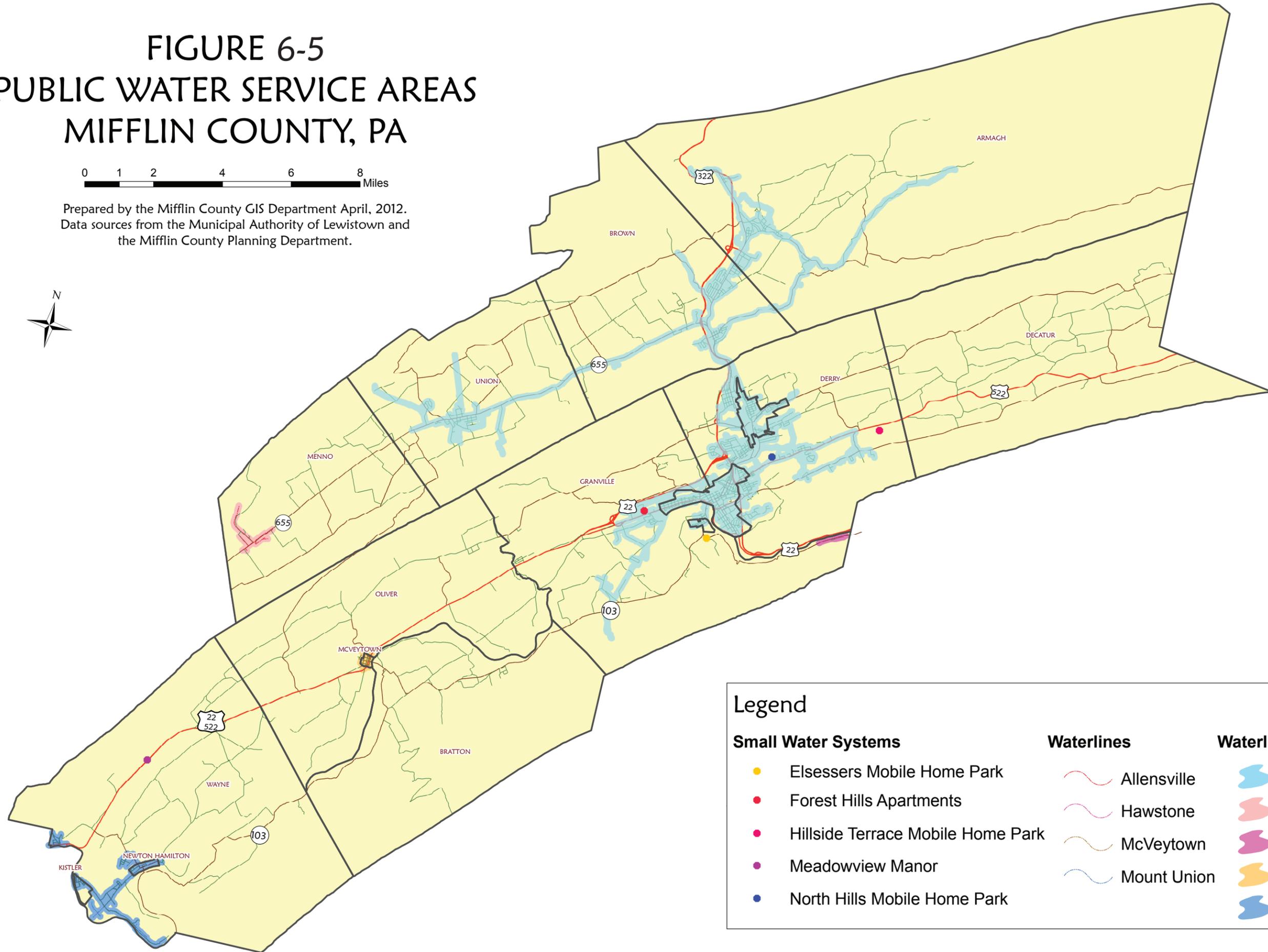
The Mifflin County Water Supply Plan (2000, unadopted) states the following as guidance for managing community water supply systems, working with the industry where feasible, and reserving government action for the protection of public health:

- Discourage the establishment of new small water systems.
- Encourage existing small water systems to create and maintain financial records including annual budget, revenue and expenses.

FIGURE 6-5 PUBLIC WATER SERVICE AREAS MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2012.
Data sources from the Municipal Authority of Lewistown and
the Mifflin County Planning Department.



Legend

Small Water Systems

- Elsessers Mobile Home Park
- Forest Hills Apartments
- Hillside Terrace Mobile Home Park
- Meadowview Manor
- North Hills Mobile Home Park

Waterlines

- Allensville
- Hawstone
- McVeytown
- Mount Union

Waterline Buffers (500 ft.)

- Lewistown
- Allensville
- Hawstone
- McVeytown
- Mount Union

- Encourage small water systems to take advantage of PADEP programs to assist small water systems: the Monitoring Reimbursement Program, Small Water Systems Regionalization Grant Program, Formation of Water Authorities Program, Small Water System Consolidation Construction Grant Program and Water and Waste Water Assistance and Outreach Program.
- Encourage all individual small water systems to identify, evaluate and implement cooperative/restructuring solutions to water service needs when possible; this would include Lewistown-Forest Hills and Lewistown-North Hills acquisitions and satellite operation.
- Maintain a countywide Water Advisory Committee to identify, monitor, evaluate, encourage, facilitate, etc. water service solutions that are in the public interest.
- The County does not have the authority to require the water systems in Mifflin County to implement the Recommended Water Supply Plan. The County can facilitate the implementations of the Plan through active involvement in the identification, evaluation and discussion of water service needs with existing water systems and PADEP through activities such as a water supply advisory committee, project-specific steering committees, interaction with regulators, education of elected and water system officials, and public education. Close coordination with land use planning is also encouraged.

PUBLIC SEWER SERVICE FACILITIES

Eleven municipalities provide public sewerage service to some portion of the properties in their communities (Table 6-11). These 11 municipal systems direct their flows to one of eight wastewater treatment plants. At least 22 pump stations assist in moving flows toward the plants in non-gravity-driven locations.

Public sewer service areas have been significantly expanded over the past 10 years. These seven extensions have provided new service to nearly 800 homes. Locations have included:

- Oliver Township along US 522 (70 homes), 2011
- the Back Maitland Road in Derry Township (220 homes), 2011
- the Newton Hamilton-Wayne Township area (460 homes), 2011
- Mifflin County Industrial Park, 2009 (both water and sewer line extensions)
- the Jewel St. project in Granville Township (3 homes), 2007

Table 6-11 Public Sewer Systems and Population Served

Wastewater Treatment Plant	Average Flow (2007)/ Permitted Capacity	Contributing Municipal System	Estimated Resident, Non-Resident Customers
Union Township (Belleville)	0.256 mgd 0.65 mgd	Belleville area, Union Township	838, 2
Bratton	0.018 mgd 0.09 mgd	Mattawanna/Longfellow area, Bratton Township	331, 0
Burnham WWTP	0.372mgd 0.640 mgd	Burnham Borough	990, 1
		Derry Township	10, 2
Granville Township (Junction Plant)	0.336 mgd 0.5 mgd	Granville	
		Juniata Terrace Borough	250, 0
Lewistown	1.59 mgd 2.818 mgd	Lewistown Borough	4,817 (EDUs)
		Derry Township	3,173 (EDUs)
		Klondike, Granville Township	55 (EDUs)
McVeytown	0.045 mgd (2006) 0.085 mgd	McVeytown Borough	243
		Oliver Township	71
Brown Township (Reedsville)	0.35 mgd 0.6 mgd	Reedsville, Lumber City, Church Hill, and Taylor Park, Brown Township	1,121, 44
		Armagh Township	935, 61
Granville Township (Strodes Mills Plant)	0.035 mgd 0.66 mgd	Strodes Mills, Granville Township	
		Oliver Township	23, 0
Mount Union	0.501 mgd (2012) 1.1 mgd	Kistler Borough	137, 1
		Newton Hamilton Borough (102), and Wayne Township (306)	408, n/a
Total			13,402, 111 49% of housing units, n/a

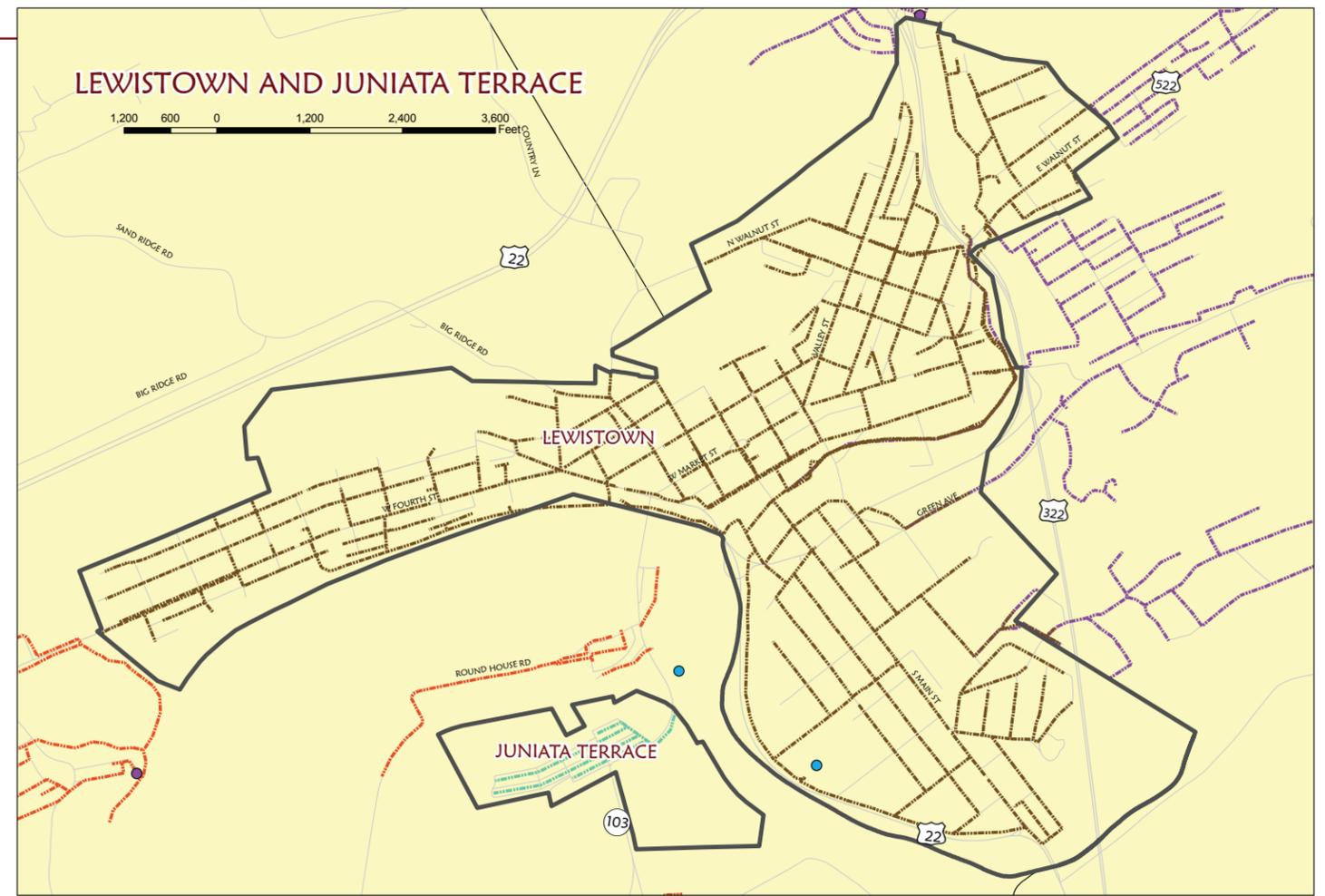
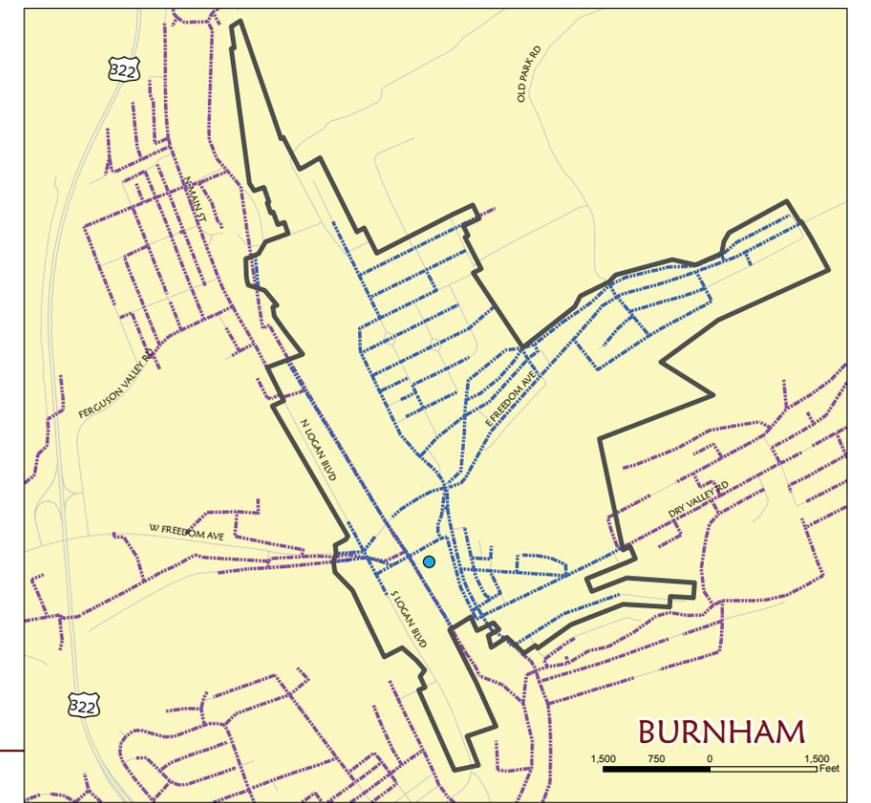
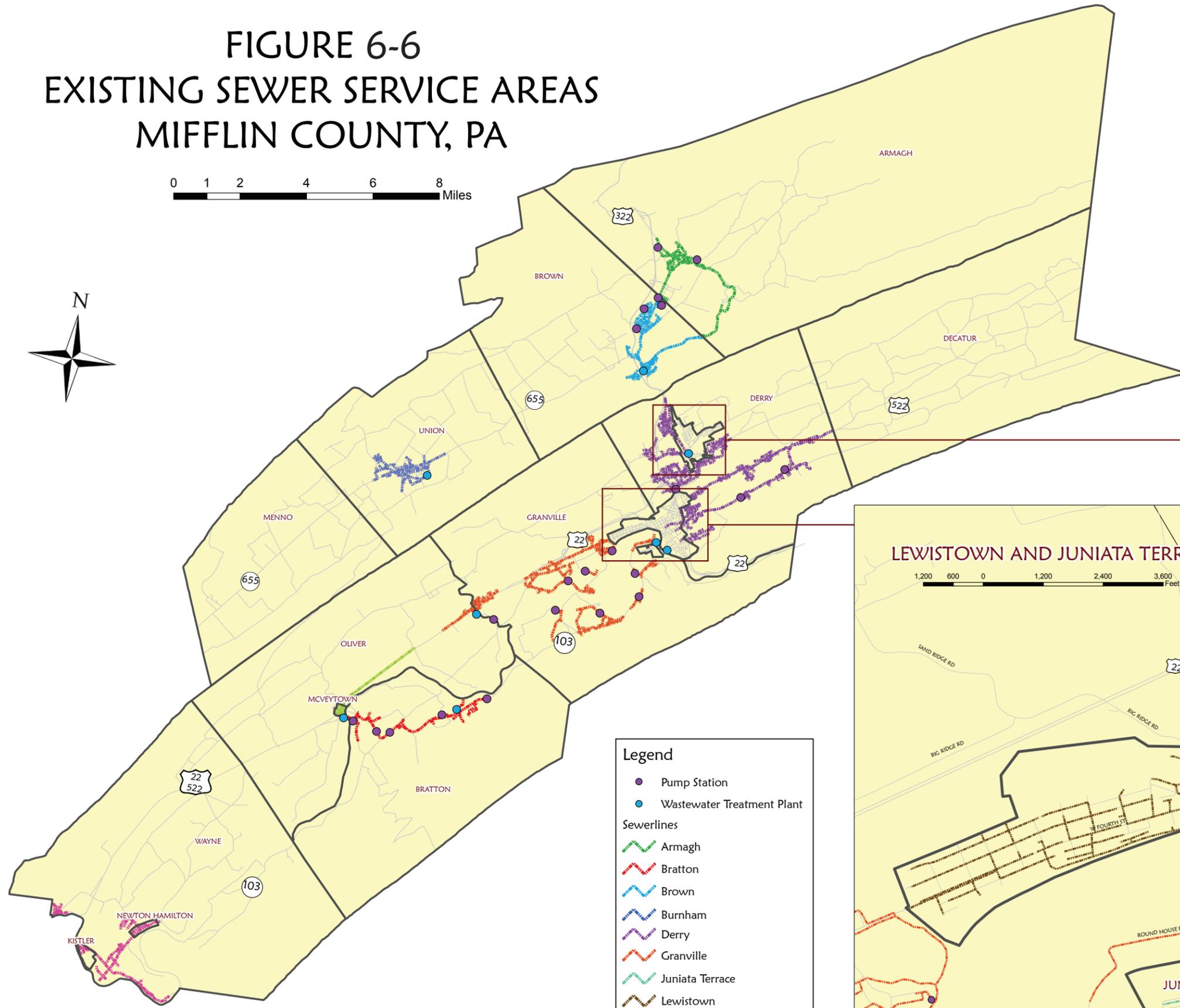
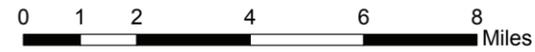
Source: Mifflin County Public Sewer Plan, 2008; Lewistown Borough Comprehensive Rate Evaluation, 2012; Mount Union Chapter 94 Report (2012); Municipalities (2013)

- the Village of Lockport in Oliver Township, (23 homes), 2006, and
- Granville Township along Route 103 (13 homes), 2003.

The locations of facilities and representative service areas are shown on Figure 6-6.

In addition to these municipal treatment/collection systems, there are also 10 non-municipal sewage treatment systems. These systems serve various school district, industrial, and recreational facilities. None are planned for notable expansion, and therefore are not further analyzed here.

FIGURE 6-6 EXISTING SEWER SERVICE AREAS MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



- Legend**
- Pump Station
 - Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Sewerlines**
- Armagh
 - Bratton
 - Brown
 - Burnham
 - Derry
 - Granville
 - Juniaata Terrace
 - Lewistown
 - McVeytown
 - Mount Union
 - Union

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2012.
Data sources from Mifflin County.

Other properties utilize on-lot disposal systems for treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater. The types of on-lot systems vary and include in-ground systems, elevated sand mound systems, alternate and experimental systems, and holding tanks and privies, as well as wildcat systems not built to standards or with approvals. Soil suitability for on-lot disposal systems (OLDS) is very limited in the County. See Figure 8-4 (see Chapter 8). Over time, soil conditions limited the effectiveness of each system, resulting in failures or malfunctions that can threaten water quality at the surface and below ground. Failures and malfunctions can be “solved” by installing a second system or connecting to a public sewer collection system. Both are costly alternatives.

Proper management of OLDS can extend the service life of the system. Regular pumping of the septic tank and inspection of the tank and drainage field enable the system to operate efficiently and owners to address minor problems before more costly rehabilitation or replacement is needed. Municipalities can require such management of OLDS in the interest of protecting public health. Where recommended, a municipal sewage facilities plan will outline the owner and municipal responsible.

SEWAGE FACILITIES PLANNING

The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act of 1966 as amended, commonly referred to as “Act 537”, is the primary law controlling individual and community sewage disposal systems. Act 537 requires that every municipality in the state prepare and maintain sewage facilities plan. Act 537 requires municipalities to review their official plans at five-year intervals and perform updates, as necessary. (Unfortunately, record of review is not required.) Municipalities can apply to the PADEP for up to 50 percent reimbursement of the cost of preparing an Act 537 plan.

High growth municipalities are frequently performing updates to their Act 537 Plan. For stable or slow growth municipalities, 20 years or more may elapse between plan renewals. Regardless of timing, such plans and their approval by PADEP are needed before any major sanitary sewer projects are eligible for state funding.

In 2008, Mifflin County prepared a Public Sewer Plan to summarize the conditions and planned improvements of the municipal collection systems and treatment plants and to encourage coordinated planning and implementation of future land use planning, development regulations, and public sewer service areas. The plan also recommended regional approaches to cost-sharing and the administration of on-lot sewage disposal management programs.

Table 6-12 Status of Act 537 Municipal Sewages Facilities Plans

Municipality	Date of Adoption or Amendment	Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Age	Trend Comparison
Armagh Township	6/1999	Plan between 10 and 20 years	Less than 1% population gain since 2000; 4% housing unit gain
Bratton Township	3/29/2002	Plan between 5 and 10 years	5% population gain since 2000; 8% housing unit gain
Brown Township	1992; (9/1/1971)	Plan between 20 and 40 years; (older than 40 years)	48% population gain since 1970; 48% housing unit gain since 1980
Burnham Borough	9/2/2010	Plan less than 5 years old	Plan is current
Decatur Township	3/22/1995	Plan between 10 and 20 years	4% population gain since 2000; 2% housing unit gain
Derry Township	6/15/1998	Plan between 10 and 20 years	1% population gain; 3% housing unit gain
Granville Township	8/29/2001	Plan between 5 and 10 years	4% population gain; 10% housing unit gain
Juniata Terrace Borough	7/16/1997; 6/2010	Plan between 10 and 20 years	8% population gain; 8% housing unit gain
Kistler Borough	8/31/1989	Plan between 20 and 40 years	Nominal population gain since 1990; Nominal housing unit loss
Lewistown Borough	9/30/2009	Plan less than 5 years old	Plan is current
McVeytown Borough	9/1/1971	Plan between 20 and 40 years	3% population loss since 1970; 12% housing unit loss
Menno Township	9/1/1971	Plan between 20 and 40 years	44% population gain since 1970; 26% housing unit gain
Newton Hamilton Borough	9/1/1993	Plan between 10 and 20 years	14% population gain since 1990; 11% housing unit gain
Oliver Township	2/18/2009	Plan less than 5 years old	Plan is current
Union Township	5/20/2008	Plan less than 5 years old	Plan is current
Wayne Township	10/19/2004	Plan between 5 and 10 years	5% population gain since 2000; 9% housing unit gain

Source: PA DEP; Gannett Fleming, Inc.

MUNICIPAL SEWAGE FACILITIES SERVICE AND PLANNING

Information regarding public sewer service in the County was drawn from the 2008 Public Sewer Plan and PA DEP. Key issues are summarized below followed by summaries of the systems by planning region.

- Municipal sewage facilities plans in the County vary widely in age. Four are less than 5 years old and considered current. Ten of 16 are older than 10 years and two are 20 to 40 years old.

- Sewage facilities assessments and plan updates are most needed in Brown and Menno Townships where populations and housing units have increased significantly since the last sewage facilities plan was adopted. As of 2013, both have plans under preparation.
- Wayne Township experienced gains in both population and housing since its 2004 plan. If further growth is expected, an update may be needed.
- Newton Hamilton has also had double digit gains in population and housing since its plan was last updated in 1993. While the Borough is small and essentially built-out, consideration should be given to the reality of water use and sewer service needs and the potential for more efficient water operations. Juniata Terrace had 8% growth in both population and housing since its 1997 plan and should consider similar evaluations.
- McVeytown Borough is fully developed by current zoning and has lost population and housing since 1971. Current conditions may continue or growth could replace lost population and housing units. Regardless, the Borough may want to partner with Oliver Township, a contributor to the Borough's treatment plant, to update demand for sewer service in its area and evaluate measures to ensure efficiency.

NORTHEAST PLANNING REGION

ARMAGH TOWNSHIP

The Armagh Township Municipal Authority collects and transfers sewage from the Milroy and Mt. Pleasant areas of the township for treatment and disposal at the Brown Township Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant. This collection and treatment system was constructed in 1980 and currently serves 935 residential customers and 61 businesses in Armagh Township. The collection system has two pump stations and is inspected annually for inflow/infiltration. Problem areas are identified and repaired, as needed.

The majority of the residents utilize on-lot disposal systems for treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater. As of 1998, there were more than 800 on-lot systems in existence. Since roughly 88 percent of the Township's on-lot systems were failing or malfunctioning, Armagh Township implemented a Sewage Management Program. The program requires that each system be pumped every five years and inspected every three years.

ARMAGH TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (JUNE 1999)

With little growth in the township since 1998, the township has not updated its 537 plan. There are no plans to significantly expand public sewer service and the sewage management program has been addressing malfunctions with individual properties as they occur.

BROWN TOWNSHIP

The Brown Township Municipal Authority owns a wastewater collection and treatment system that serves the Reedsville, Lumber City, Church Hill, and Taylor Park areas of the township, as well as providing treatment for sewage from neighboring Armagh Township. Through a lease-back agreement, the system is operated by the township. There are 1,121 residential customers, 38 commercial customers, and 6 institutional customers in Brown Township.

The treatment plant has a 600,000 gallon per day capacity. Its 2007 average annual flow was 58% of total capacity.

BROWN TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (1992)

According to the PADEP, Brown Township's last Act 537 Plan update was performed in 1992, but neither the Township nor state has this plan on file. The previous plan was approved in 1971. Brown Township is currently in the process of renewing its Act 537 Plan. Service extensions to Edgewood Estates and Quillas Creek are anticipated along with expansion of the plant to a design capacity of 0.09 mgd (million gallons per day).

NORTHWEST PLANNING REGION

MENNO TOWNSHIP

There is no public sewer service in Menno Township. All properties are served by on-lot systems.

MENNO TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN

Menno Township adopted an Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan on September 1, 1971, though no document is on file at the Township or with PA DEP. The Township is currently in the process of renewing its Act 537 Plan.

UNION TOWNSHIP

The Municipal Authority provides service to the Belleville area of the township. The wastewater collection system is reported to be a separate

sanitary collection network that operates completely by gravity; it has no pumping stations.

The treatment plant has a 650,000 gallon per day capacity. The Authority upgraded the treatment plant in 2011 which addressed Chesapeake Bay Strategy/Compliance by chemically precipitating phosphorus and using recirculation in aeration tanks to remove nitrogen. Its 2012 average annual flow was approximately 24% of total capacity.

Roughly 500 residences utilize on-lot disposal systems for treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater. The Township has implemented a Sewage Management Program. The program suggests that each system be pumped every three to five years. The Union Township Plant accepts septage that has been generated within the Township and surrounding municipalities. The septage receiving station screens liquid waste to remove any inorganic objects that may interfere with the plant process equipment.

UNION TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (MAY 2008)

While the Township is experiencing new development along PA 655, there are no plans to significantly expand public sewer service.

SOUTHEAST PLANNING REGION

DECATUR TOWNSHIP

Decatur Township's sewage disposal needs are reliant upon on-lot septic systems. Currently, there are no public or privately owned treatment facilities in the Township. In accordance with the 1994 Act 537 Plan, the Township has implemented an OLDS management program, which has been in operation since 1997. This program requires mandatory inspection and pumping of septic tanks every three years for all on-lot sewage disposal systems in the Township to mitigate the impacts of current and future system malfunctions.

DECATUR TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (DECEMBER 1994; APPROVED MARCH 1995)

The plan recommends that a public sewerage service be installed to service the more densely populated areas of the township when funding is available to make service affordable. The largest areas that could support such a system are the communities of Alfarata, Shindle, and Soradoville. The smaller densely populated areas could support small package treatment systems or community on-lot disposal systems.

SOUTH CENTRAL PLANNING REGION

BURNHAM BOROUGH

The Burnham WWTP currently serves all of Burnham Borough (nearly 1,000 properties including domestic wastewater discharged to the Burnham collection system from the Standard Steel Company plant) and several properties in Derry Township (including the Greater Lewistown Plaza shopping center, Clarion Inn and several properties on Eighth Avenue).

The treatment plant has a 640,000 gallon per day capacity. Its 2007 average annual flow was approximately 58% of total capacity.

The Borough is upgrading the existing sewer plant from a trickling filter to an activated sludge system. The anticipated completion date is September 2014.

BURNHAM BOROUGH ACT 537 PLAN (SEPTEMBER 2010)

There are no plans to expand public sewer service in Burnham, since the borough is fully developed.

DERRY TOWNSHIP

The Derry Township Sanitary Sewer Authority (DTSSA) and Township coordinate operation and maintenance of the collection system. In fact, there are two collection systems in Derry Township.

The system serving properties in and around Yeagertown directs sewage to the Burnham treatment facility. This system serves 10 residences and the Greater Lewistown Plaza shopping center and the Clarion Inn.

The system serving properties east of Lewistown and along US Route 522 and Back Maitland Road directs flow to the Lewistown treatment plant. It services about 2,708 residences and 76 non-residential properties.

A small wastewater treatment facility serves the Derry Elementary School.

The remaining portion of the township is served by on-lot disposal systems, which range from conventional on-lot systems to direct stream discharge. A significant number of the on-lots systems are not adequately maintained, which results in malfunctions.

In accordance with the Act 537 Plan, the Township implemented an OLDS management program in 2000. The OLDS program requires mandatory inspection, maintenance, and pumping of septic tanks every four years.

DERRY TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (APRIL 1998)

Recommendations in the 1998 Act 537 Plan focused on remedying the significant number of malfunctioning on-lot sewage disposal systems. These recommendations include, but are not limited to, the implementation of OLDS management program, updating the township's existing Holding Tank Ordinance, the construction of public sewers from the areas of Maitland, North Maitland, South Hills, Jacks Creek, and Vira areas as appropriate funding is secured. In addition, the plan recognized the potential need for public sewer systems in the Old Park and Ferguson Valley areas, whenever more growth occurs. To date the DTSSA has constructed a sanitary sewer extension to serve the South Hills area and has started the preliminary design for the sanitary sewer extension to serve the area of Maitland and North Maitland.

The township supervisors have implemented an OLDS management program that requires regular inspection, maintenance, and pumping of all on-lot sewage disposal systems in the township to mitigate the impacts of current and future system malfunctions.

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP

The township owns and operates two wastewater treatment plants—Junction and Strodes Mills. Junction treatment plant began operating in 1991 and services portions of the township south of U.S. Route 522 and Juniata Terrace Borough. The Strodes Mills system started operations in 1996 and serves the community of Strodes Mills, an elementary school, as well as several homes in Oliver Township.

The Junction treatment plant has a 500,000 gallon per day capacity. Its 2013 average annual flow was approximately 42% of total capacity.

The Strodes Mills treatment plant has a 66,000 gallon per day capacity. Its 2013 average annual flow was approximately 57% of total capacity.

A portion of the township, known as the Klondike area, has public sewers which direct flow to Lewistown Borough's facility.

The area north of U.S. Route 522, predominantly the Ferguson Valley area, is still served by on-lot systems. Since this is a remote, rural area of the township, there are no immediate future plans of extending public service to this area. If necessary, the township will adopt stricter on-lot control measures.

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (AUGUST 2001)

Granville Township remains a focus of residential and non-residential development. Demand for sewer service will likely continue to grow. The 2001 Act 537 plan recommends that the Junction plant be expanded to accommodate increased treatment capacity.

JUNIATA TERRACE BOROUGH

Sewage from all 250 developed properties in Juniata Terrace is collected and directed to Granville Township's Junction treatment plan. A 40,000 gpd capacity is allocated to the Borough.

JUNIATA TERRACE BOROUGH ACT 537 (APPROVED BY JULY 16, 1997; UPDATED JUNE 2010)

The Borough has not updated its 537 plan since it abandoned its treatment facility and connected with the Junction plant in 2001. There is one remaining undeveloped tract in the Borough but there has been no development interest expressed to date.

LEWISTOWN BOROUGH ACT 537

The Borough of Lewistown sanitary sewer system serves 4,817 EDUs in Lewistown Borough, as well as 3,173 EDUs in Derry Township and 54 EDUs in Granville Township.³

The Lewistown Wastewater Treatment Plant has a 2.818 mgd capacity. Its 2007-2009 average annual flow was approximately 56% of total capacity.

The wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure is undergoing significant improvement projects to comply with regulatory requirements related to the Chesapeake Bay, to reduce the occurrence of Sewer System Overflows (SSOs) in the sewer system, to protect the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from flooding, and to update aged equipment and structures. These improvements are substantially complete and most are already in operation. Final completion is expected in Summer 2014.

LEWISTOWN BOROUGH ACT 537 PLAN (SEPTEMBER 2009)

The major recommendations of the Borough's current 537 plan are the improvements that are currently under construction. There are no plans to significantly expand public sewer service at this time.

³ Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Comprehensive rate Evaluation, Borough of Lewistown, February 2012 Update Report.

SOUTHWEST CENTRAL PLANNING REGION

BRATTON TOWNSHIP

Bratton Township established a public sewer treatment plant and collection system to serve 299 homes in the Mattawanna, Pine Glen and Longfellow areas, including Stoney Drive and Ridge Road, in 2005. These areas were developed to the point that on-lot systems could not be installed or repaired. Service is connected to a new treatment facility located in the Pine Glen/Longfellow area.

Remaining areas of the township are served by on-lot and small flow systems. The Township implemented a zoned Sewage Management Program in 2008, which inspected on-lot systems on a five-year cycle, unless the sewage enforcement officer deems it necessary to repeat the inspection in two years.

BRATTON TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (MARCH 2002)

There are no plans to significantly expand public sewer service in Bratton Township.

MCVEYTOWN BOROUGH

McVeytown Borough provides public sewer service to all of its properties, approximately 240 customers.

The treatment plant has an 85,000 gallon per day capacity and uses an average 53% of total capacity.

The Borough has developed an inter-municipal agreement with Oliver Township to provide the township with sewer treatment service.

MCVEYTOWN BOROUGH (SEPTEMBER 1971)

The Borough has not updated its 537 plan since its adoption in 1971. Since then, the Borough has lost population and gained new sewer treatment demand though the agreement with Bratton Township. There are no plans to expand public sewer service in McVeytown, since the borough is fully developed.

OLIVER TOWNSHIP

Oliver Township provides sewer collection service in two locations along US Route 522. The eastern portion is gravity-fed toward the Strodes Mill treatment facility in Granville Township. The western portion is gravity-fed toward the McVeytown treatment facility. The remaining properties in the township are served by on-lot systems.

The Township has enacted a voluntary sewage management program for residential dwellings and commercial buildings not serviced by a new system. The program requires regular inspection, maintenance, and pumping of all on-lot sewage disposal systems.

OLIVER TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (FEBRUARY 2009)

There are no plans to significantly expand public sewer service and the sewage management program has been addressing malfunctions with individual properties as they occur.

SOUTHWEST PLANNING REGION

KISTLER BOROUGH

In 2001, Kistler Borough connected to the Mount Union Borough sewage collection and wastewater treatment system in Huntingdon County. Kistler Borough's collection system services 137 residential customers and the Kistler-Mount Union Elementary School. A pumping station provides the lift needed to convey the sewage into Mount Union.

Several residential properties in the Borough, beyond the extent of the existing collection system, are served by on-lot disposal systems.

KISTLER BOROUGH ACT 537 PLAN (AUGUST 1989)

The Borough's Act 537 plan was implemented with the decommissioning of the Wayne Township STP and connection to Mount Union Borough's treatment facility.

NEWTON-HAMILTON BOROUGH AND WAYNE TOWNSHIP

Sewer service in Newtown Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township is provided by the Newton Wayne Joint Municipal Authority. The Authority constructed a new sewage collection system in 2010-2011. The Authority successfully competed for county CDBG funds in three grant years to fund construction and connection for low-income residents.

Public sewer service is provided to approximately 102 properties in the Borough. Sewage is conveyed to the Mount Union Borough wastewater treatment facility through Wayne Township and Kistler Borough.

Public sewer service is provided to approximately 306 customers in the Country Club Drive, Silverford Heights, Norton Road, Shaversville Circle and the Old United Methodist Campground areas of Wayne Township/Mifflin County. Sewage is conveyed to the Mount Union

Borough wastewater treatment facility through Kistler Borough.

NEWTON-HAMILTON BOROUGH ACT 537 PLAN (SEPTEMBER 1993)

There are no plans to expand public sewer service; all properties are served.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN (OCTOBER 2004)

There are no plans to significantly expand public sewer service in the Township.

MOUNT UNION BOROUGH, HUNTINGDON COUNTY

The Mount Union Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) serves the Mount Union Borough, Kistler Borough, Newton Hamilton and portions of Wayne and Shirley Townships.

The permitted capacity of the WWTP is 1.1 million gallons per day. Its 2012 average annual flow was approximately 46% of total capacity.

Recent activities at the WWTP include construction of a chemical phosphorus removal system to meet BNR compliance starting October 2013, and a re-rating of the WWTP to increase the permitted peak organic loading. Mount Union Municipal Authority is currently operating under a PADEP-approved Corrective Action Plan to reduce wet weather flows within their sewer system.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Within Pennsylvania, stormwater management planning and decisions are performed by municipalities through local subdivision and land development ordinances. But too often, local officials only focus their planning and decision making efforts within their municipal boundaries and do not consider the impacts of their actions on downstream communities. Therefore, adequate planning cannot be thoroughly accomplished on a parcel-by-parcel or municipality-by-municipality basis. Compounding the problem is a lack of clear legal guidance and sufficient hydrologic information. These together have hampered the ability of municipalities to make sound stormwater management decisions. Multi-municipal cooperation and joint participation by everyone to resolve flooding problems are the keys to the successful resolution.

The Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Act 167 of 1978, requires counties to prepare stormwater management plans on a watershed-by-

watershed basis. These plans must be prepared in consultation with the affected municipalities. Standards for control of runoff from new development are a required component of each plan and are based on a detailed hydrologic assessment. A key objective of a stormwater management plan is to coordinate the decisions of the watershed municipalities. A plan is implemented through mandatory municipal adoption of ordinance provisions consistent with the plan.

Mifflin County is comprised of three major watersheds, which are the Juniata River, Jacks Creek, and the Kishacoquillas Creek. Of these watersheds, only the Jacks Creek watershed has an approved stormwater management plan (1995). However, there was no implementing model ordinance or other municipal regulation consistent with this plan. A stormwater management plan is for the Kishacoquillas Creek watershed, which includes its tributaries, Laurel Creek and Honey Creek, was completed with a model ordinance in 2003. Several municipalities adopted the model ordinance between 2004 and 2007.

In 2010, Mifflin County completed a County-Wide Stormwater Management Plan for all watersheds in the County. Key elements to address the impact of new impervious surfaces over 5,000 square feet include:

1. Requirements for Stormwater Peak Rate Controls.
2. Requirements for Stormwater Volume Controls addressing water quality.
3. Uniform regulations across the County, consistent with DEP requirements.
4. Small Project Application for simplified stormwater management on small projects.

The plan recommends uniform regulations across the County, consistent with DEP requirements and a Small Project Application for simplified stormwater management on small projects. It included a model ordinance containing regulations so that each municipality can implement the Plan. As of May 2012, 5 of the 16 municipalities have adopted the model ordinance.

Plans prepared under the Stormwater Management Act will not resolve all drainage issues. A key goal of the planning process is to maintain existing peak runoff rates throughout a watershed as well as maintaining water quality as land development continues to take place. Although this process does not solve existing problems, it should prevent their escalation.

UTILITY NETWORKS

Citizens of Mifflin County are served by privately operated gas, electricity, and communication systems. Although these utilities are privately owned, it is important to provide a brief inventory of these utility providers and potential issues for future community and economic development.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Land-based telecommunication service within Mifflin County is provided by two primary companies: Verizon and CenturyLink.

AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, and T-Mobile, as well as small, independent companies, provide cellular services in Mifflin County. Together, these companies own or operate from eleven towers, most of which are located along the US 322 corridor.

Telecommunication service in the past was rarely a land use issue, but the proliferation of cellular phone tower construction has caused it to become an important planning issue throughout Pennsylvania.

ELECTRIC SERVICE

Mifflin County is serviced by two primary electric utility providers: Pennsylvania Electric Company (Penelec/GPU) and Valley Rural Electric Cooperative (VREC) in the Ferguson Valley area.

The total number of Penelec/GPU customers has increased from 21,821 in 1998 to 23,073 in January 2014 (a 5.7 percent increase).

VREC serves about 500 customers in the Ferguson Valley area of Mifflin County, which includes Granville, Oliver and Wayne Townships. This is a relatively small portion of its more than 22,000 customers across parts of Bedford, Blair, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata and Mifflin Counties. VREC uses a 1.73 percent consumer growth rate to predict its future service needs, but its customer base has been relatively stable since 2007. As of Spring 2012, no major service extension projects or infrastructure upgrades are planned for the next one to years.

NATURAL GAS SERVICE

Natural gas service is provided to approximately 2,700 customers in the Greater Lewistown area and in Brown and Union Townships by UGI Central Penn Gas, Inc.

With the rise of natural gas extraction from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale and the competitive pricing of this fuel, homeowners and businesses in Mifflin County have requested expansion of the natural gas service.

SEDA-COG, in conjunction with Centre, Clinton, and Mifflin counties has begun a project to increase the utilization of regionally developed natural gas in Central Pennsylvania. The project is intended to make natural gas more accessible for residential, industrial, and vehicular use. Funding has been provided through SEDA-COG, the counties, Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation, Standard Steel (located in Burnham, Mifflin County), and a grant from the federal Economic Development Administration.

As a first step, the project will explore the creation of a municipal authority, co-op, corporation, or other entity to facilitate and expand natural gas service throughout the project area. Appropriate areas for service expansion, such as business parks or industrial sites, will be identified. Priority will be given to locations that can also provide natural gas accessibility to residential areas.

As the gas utilization project moves forward, targeted investment areas will be identified, i.e., concentrations of potential users of natural gas. They will be evaluated in terms of potential gas consumption, cost of providing service, economic impacts, and the potential for future development.

In terms of vehicular use, the project will identify the infrastructure needed to make natural gas available for locally operated vehicle fleets, such as private trucking companies and county- or municipally-owned cars and trucks.



CHAPTER 7

CULTURAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

Cultural resources are the prehistoric and historic districts, sites, structures, artifacts, and other physical evidence of human activities considered important to a community for scientific, historic, religious, or other reasons. A review of the cultural resources in Mifflin County increases our understanding and appreciation of our local heritage and can lead to an enhanced economy, as civic and tourism destinations, and to an improved quality of life.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Before European settlers came to Mifflin County, the land was home to several tribes of Native Americans. The first were the Juniata and the Susquehanna, who warred with the Mohawks in what is now New York State. Though the local tribes were victorious at first, the Mohawks invaded in 1640 completely destroying the Juniata and Susquehanna with the aid of French firearms. Indian occupation declined until the Shawnee and Delaware migrated to the area in the 1700s. Two of the most well-known chiefs were Chief Kishacoquillas of the Shawnee and Chief Logan of the Iroquois. The Chief Kishacoquillas was friendly to the English, warning settlers of attacks from other tribes on several occasions. The English held him in high regard, so much so that a 1749 map of the Juniata River Valley identifies a creek that bears his name. Likewise, Chief Logan was said to be an “impressive Indian and a real gentleman.”

Rivers and streams are named for the Native Americans who first lived here.

Immediately following William Penn’s 1754 Albany Purchase, Scotch-Irish traders began to settling in this area. The first was Arthur Buchanan, who in 1754, set up his trading post at the old Shawnee Village of Ohesson on the current site of the Lewistown Hotel. By the end of the year, there were 40 clearings along the Juniata River for living and commerce. However, these first settlers, and those who tried again in 1763, were forced to retreat to Carlisle by the Indians. By 1765, the Indians were finally quelled allowing permanent settlements that housed upwards of 80 families in the Juniata Valley. These settlers were self-sufficient except for cloth, guns, and powder, which were obtained in exchange for valuable walnut logs, furs, and whiskey floated down the Juniata.

The Juniata River was used for waterpower to run numerous gristmills and sawmills, a tannery, and 10 distilleries at a site later to be known as Lewistown. The discovery of iron ore and the making of iron at Freedom Forge in 1775 caused the economy to flourish. In 1783, the Scotch-Irish traders were joined by an inflow of German farmers from Northampton and Berks Counties and Amish moving north from Lancaster. In 1798, William Lewis founded the Hope Furnace. By 1836, five furnaces were in operation, and iron and charcoal began to replace fur and grain as the largest local economic exports.

Firmly settled with a flourishing economy, Mifflin County was officially carved from Cumberland and Northumberland Counties in 1789 and named for Thomas Mifflin, the first governor of the Commonwealth under the Constitution of 1790. Lewistown became the County seat, and the people’s first request of the state was for a road system. Subsequently in 1807, the Pennsylvania Legislature contracted to have a turnpike built to connect Harrisburg and Lewistown. Construction of the pike finished in 1817, enabling manufacturing and service industries to reach distant markets more quickly and easily.

By 1830, Mifflin County had doubled in population and matured from a self-sufficient, fledgling settlement to a surplus producing, specialized, industrial area. Around 1829, the Pennsylvania Canal was finished and turned Lewistown into the shipping center for Mifflin and Centre Counties. As a result, the population doubled again and new hotels and warehouses were built. Two new businesses were introduced: Logan Foundry in 1842 and Duncan (later Glamorgan) Furnace in 1846. The canal’s glory was overshadowed by the arrival of the railroad in 1849, but remained operational until 1889. The rail caused other businesses to thrive while shipping, the County’s life-line, suffered. A local depression followed.

As industries flourished, communities grew in size and established public and faith-based institutions.

Due to the iron ore's high sulfur content, which made for weak steel, and the depleted lumber supplies in 1890, companies like Standard Steel and Logan Iron & Steel saved themselves by importing raw materials. Limestone quarries, the Susquehanna Silk Mill (1909), the Ganister Brick Company (1910), and the Newton-Hamilton Plant of Aetna Explosive Company (1915) supplemented the failing iron and lumber industries with employment for many workers. Things began to move quickly with the introduction of street cars, hard surfaced roads, a sewer system, a hospital, a YMCA, and the onset of World War I. The war caused a temporary boom for Standard and Logan but was followed by the Depression of the 1930s and a local unemployment rate of 30.8 percent. The Depression transitioned into another boom during World War II. Mifflin County survived these economic challenges by its diversified industry.

For over 50 years, the largest textile company in the County was the American Viscose Corporation, which had over 5,000 employees at its peak. In the 1920s, the company built the community of Juniata Terrace for its workers. Unfortunately, the Flood of 1972 caused by Hurricane Agnes resulted in the permanent closure of the American Viscose plant and the temporary closure of other plants, including Standard Steel. The flood and technological advances have resulted in a much smaller manufacturing workforce in recent decades.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources in Mifflin County are generally buildings and structures significant for their age, their architectural style, or their role in the community and its economy. Examples include civic buildings, such as schools, churches, hospitals, and theaters; mills, stores and homes of business owners, representative of leading industries and eras of prosperity; clusters of homes built in a similar style; rural homesteads; bridges and canals, representative of transportation engineering techniques; and cemeteries and memorials.

In particular, churches are recognized as the architectural gems of many communities in Mifflin County. They were expensive to build, required the expertise of immigrant builders who settled here, and were supported by many partners and donors who are acknowledged in stained-glass windows, sculptures, and other building elements. Other notable sites, in addition to sites recognized specifically as historic resources under Historic Preservation, include:

- The Stone Arch Bridge between Lewiston and Derry Township near Jack's Creek Road and the South Main Street bridge over Kish

Creek just south of Water Street in Lewistown, two of the many bridges that give character to the community

- The African Methodist Episcopal Cemetery
- Mrs. Buchanon’s grave site on Dorcas Street
- Black’s Hospital
- McVeytown Post Office, a stone building from the 1700s.

LOCAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

The Mifflin County Planning Commission prepared the 1978 “Historical Sites Survey–Mifflin County.” This three-part report provides an inventory of structures that were built before 1875 and have, for the most part, retained their architectural or historical integrity. Part I provides a brief history of Mifflin County and its inhabitants. Part II contains a photograph, narrative description and historical overview, site number, and map location of each inventoried site. Part III is a summary of the report that also includes the guidelines used for inventorying, as well as the registration process for the National Register of Historic Places.

Churches are recognized as the architectural gems of many communities in Mifflin County.

LOCAL RECOGNITION FOR LANDMARK BUILDINGS IN LEWISTOWN

Since 2003, Downtown Lewistown, Inc., the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Mifflin County Historical Society have recognized 28 historic buildings in the Lewistown area (Table 7-1). The program is intended to build awareness and appreciation for properties that exhibit significance, historically and or architecturally, to Mifflin County, the state, or the nation and have been maintained by the owner. Funding has enabled the program to recognize three to four buildings per year. Each building receives two plaques: one with its date of construction and one with an explanation of the significance of the building. Program partners have also prepared a walking tour of the recognized buildings, available as a brochure from the Historical Society office on Monument Square.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Federal and state historic preservation laws require federal and state agencies to consider the effects of their actions on all historic and prehistoric sites, districts, buildings, and structures eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Federal legal mandates include Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Executive Order 11593, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Pennsylvania’s legal mandates include the Environmental Right Amendment, Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, and the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Act of 1978. In other words,

Table 7-1 Landmark Buildings in Lewistown, Mifflin County

Building	Year of	
	Construction	Recognition
Ahrens Brothers Construction Company	1906	2005
Apprentices' Literary Society (occupied by the United Way)	1853	2004
Coleman House	1871	2003
Embassy Theatre	1927	2006
First Baptist Church	1883	2009
First United Methodist Church	1900	2006
Fosnot-Wilson Building	1917	2009
George R. Frysinger Home (The Bauman Building)	1854	2008
Historic Courthouse	1843	2008
Lewistown Municipal Building/Borough Hall	1936	2009
Lewistown Presbyterian Church	1910	2008
Masonic Temple	1893	2003
Miller Theatre	1949	2009
Montgomery Ward Building	1929	2005
No. 10 S. Main Street	1822	2006
No. 12 S. Main Street	1822	2006
Ohev Sholom Synagogue	1919	2010
Peacock Major's Wayside Inn	1803	2005
Russell National Bank	1927	2004
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	1923	2005
St. John's Lutheran Church	1900	2007
St. Mark's Episcopal Church	1879	2004
The Benedict House	1835	2007
The Dr. William S. Taylor House	1908	2010
The Joseph McFadden House	1875	2010
WMRF Radio	1941	2004
Wollner Building	1906	2008
Woodlawn	1824	2003

Sources: Mifflin County Historical Society, 2012.

The McCoy House is among the nine properties in Mifflin County listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

projects using federal and state funds cannot impact these historic places without specified planning and decision-making. These properties are not, however, protected from privately funded development or its impacts.

Information regarding Mifflin County’s historic properties listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places was collected from the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (PHMC) and the National Park Service (Table 7-2). Eligibility was determined at the time of each site’s application. However, extensive changes to these resources may have occurred since their evaluation; some may have been deemed eligible with what current practice would consider insufficient evidence. Therefore, any property with a National Register eligible designation five or more years old must be re-evaluated by the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Office (PHMC’s Bureau for Historic Preservation) to confirm its eligibility.

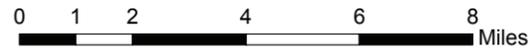
Figure 7-1 shows the locations of historic properties identified by Mifflin County and/or PHMC. Figure 7-1 includes the Kishacoquillas Valley railroad, which has not been evaluated by PHMC for National Register eligibility. Table 7-2 includes several properties that are not shown in Figure 7-1 because they are not locally identified.

Thirty-nine sites, districts, buildings and other structures are nationally designated as documented or potential historic places. Of these:

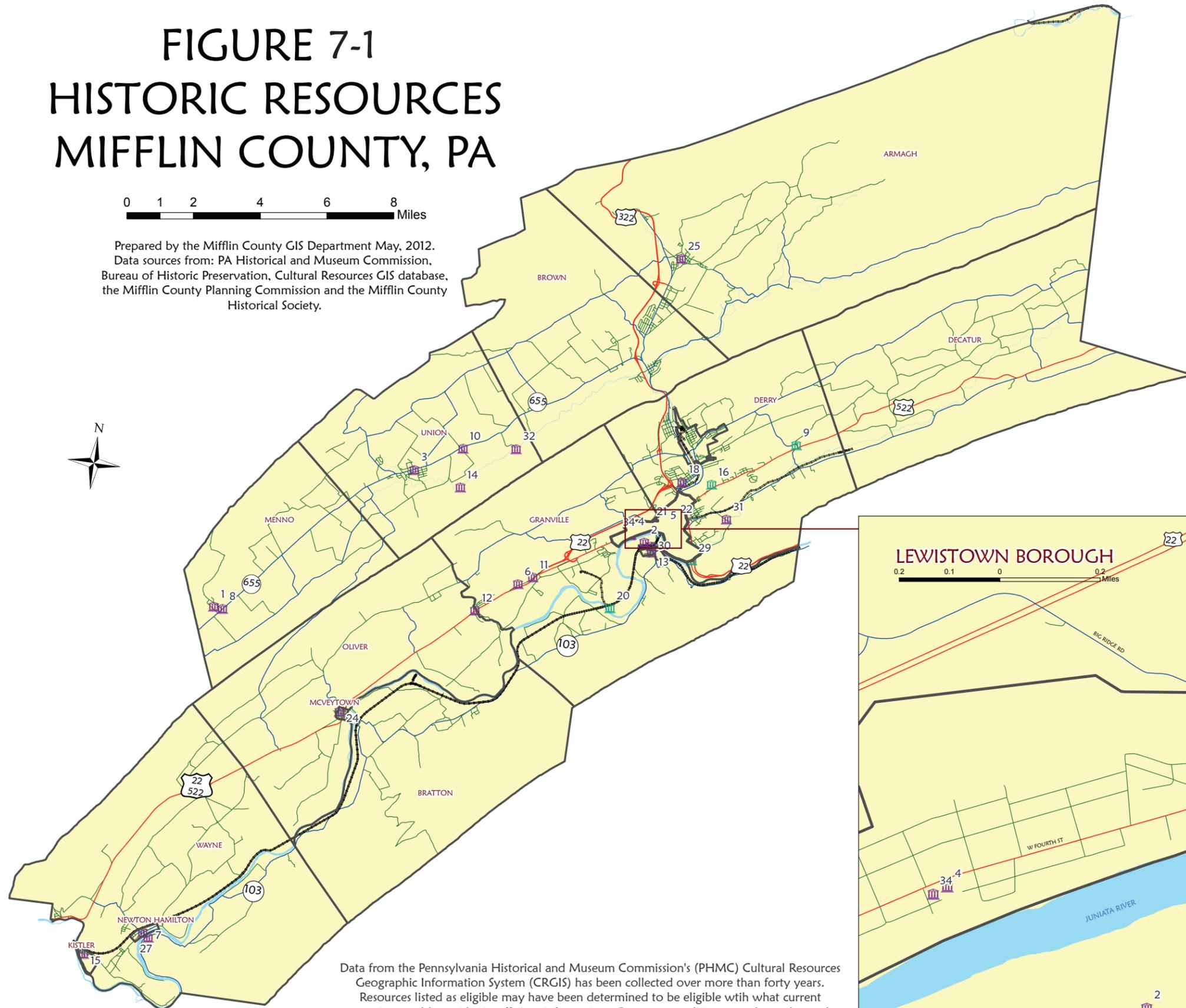
- Nine properties in Mifflin County have been fully evaluated by state and federal agencies and are deemed “listed” on the National Register of Historic Places. Thirty other sites were eligible for listing at the time of their review by the State Historic Preservation Officer, though their current condition may affect their eligibility.
- Two properties were “listed” in the past 20 years. The Embassy Theatre was listed in 1998 and most recently, the Juniata Division of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal was listed in 2002.
- Twenty properties were determined to be eligible for listing over the past 20 years. This represents a significant interest in historic preservation, since the determination process requires an application by the owner to state and federal agencies.

Another 30 properties are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

FIGURE 7-1 HISTORIC RESOURCES MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department May, 2012.
Data sources from: PA Historical and Museum Commission,
Bureau of Historic Preservation, Cultural Resources GIS database,
the Mifflin County Planning Commission and the Mifflin County
Historical Society.



Legend

- Eligible
- Listed
- Railroads
- Waterways

- HISTORIC PLACES**
- 1 - Allensville Grade School
 - 2 - American Viscose Corporation Plant
 - 3 - Belleville Historic District
 - 4 - Caton House (Robert Hope)
 - 5 - Coleman Hotel
 - 6 - F. Caldwell House; Full Gospel Church
 - 7 - G & H Wharton Farmstead
 - 8 - General Wayne Hotel; Kennedy Homestead
 - 9 - Hoopes School
 - 10 - James Alexander Homestead
 - 11 - Johnson House
 - 12 - Joseph Strode House
 - 13 - Juniata Terrace Borough District
 - 14 - Kishacoquillas Valley Railroad
 - 15 - Kistler Historic District
 - 16 - Lewistown Armory
 - 17 - Lewistown Historic District
 - 18 - Lewistown Hospital
 - 19 - Lewistown Hotel
 - 20 - Lewistown Municipal Building
 - 21 - Main Line Canal, Juniata Division
 - 22 - Mannerhaus
 - 23 - McCoy House
 - 24 - McVeytown Elementary School
 - 25 - Milroy Historic District
 - 26 - Montgomery Ward Building
 - 27 - Newton Hamilton Historic District
 - 28 - Mifflin County Historic Courthouse
 - 29 - Old Stone Arch Bridge
 - 30 - PA Railroad Lewistown JCT
 - 31 - Pleasant View Dairy
 - 32 - S. Alexander Property
 - 33 - The Embassy Theatre
 - 34 - William F. Kitting House
 - 35 - Wollner Building

Data from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) Cultural Resources Geographic Information System (CRGIS) has been collected over more than forty years. Resources listed as eligible may have been determined to be eligible with what current practice would consider insufficient information. Resource conditions may have changed since their evaluation for National Register eligibility and some may even have been demolished. Any resource with a National Register eligible designation five or more years old must be re-evaluated by the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PHMC's Bureau for Historic Preservation) to confirm National Register eligibility.

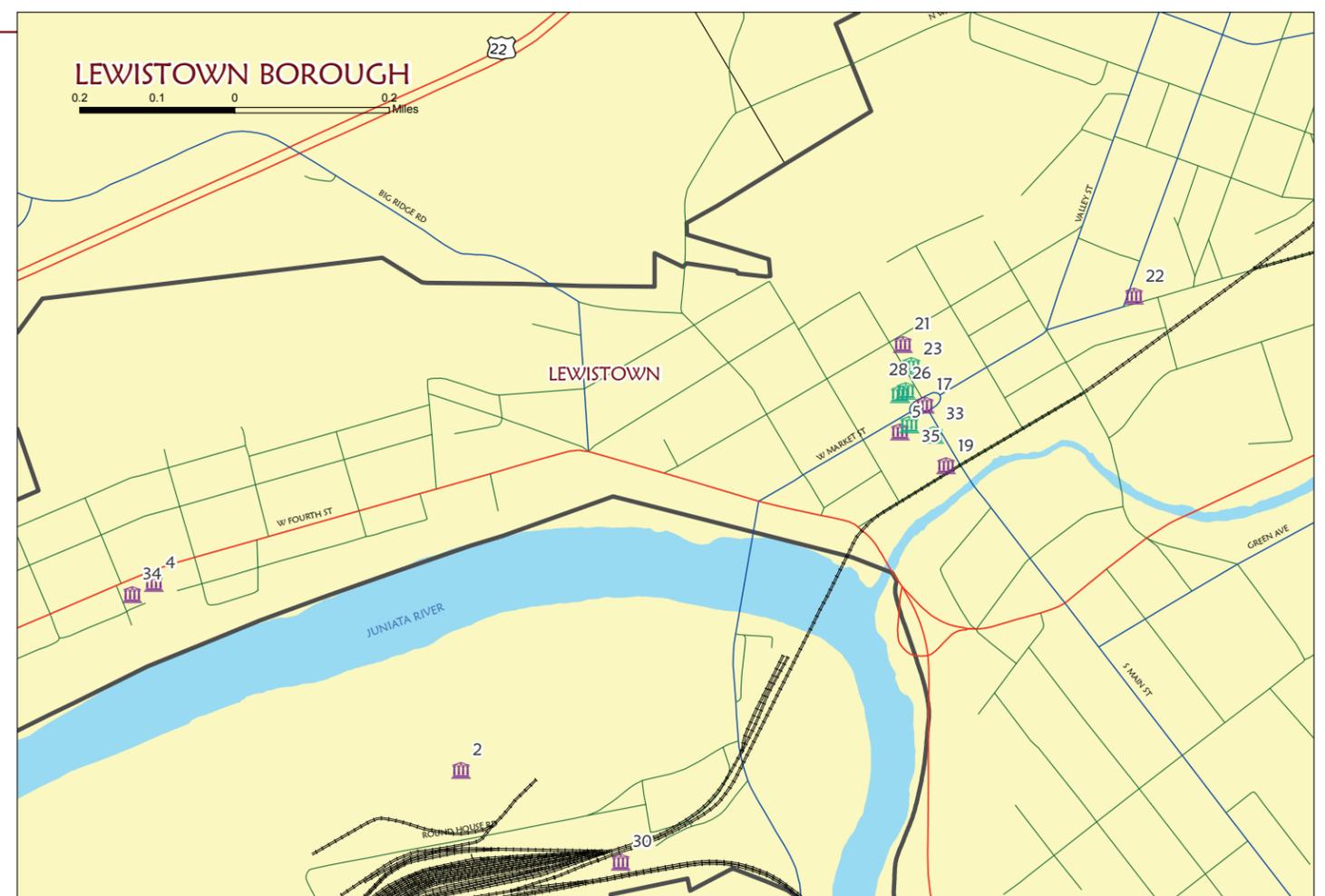


Table 7-2 National Register of Historic Places Listed and Eligible Properties, Mifflin County

Historic Site	Municipality	Address	Listed	Eligible
Building No. 1**	Derry Twp.	Main Street	-	11/7/1991
Allensville Grade School	Menno Twp.	Allensville	-	9/22/1994
American Viscose	Lewistown	One Belle Avenue	-	4/1/1991
Belleville Historic District	Belleville	Walnut Street and Main Street	-	9/17/1996
Caton House (Robert Hope House)	Lewistown	712 W. Fourth Street	-	4/19/1994
Coleman Hotel	Lewistown	24-26 W. Market Street	-	12/12/1988
Embassy Theatre	Lewistown	W. Market & S. Main Sts.	7/23/1998	-
F. Caldwell House; Full Gospel Church of Lewistown	Granville Twp.	181 Caldwell Hill Road (R. D. 2 Box 66)	-	2/3/1993
Foulk House (Stone Farm House)**	Derry Twp.	Miller's Tomb Road	-	5/14/1998
G&H Wharton Farmstead; David & Vicki Stewart Homestead	Wayne Twp.	Eastside of SR 3021	-	11/16/1993
General Wayne Hotel; Kennedy Homestead	Menno Twp.	138 E Main St., Allensville	-	9/5/2003
House (1)*	Derry Twp.	Main Street, Yeagertown	-	3/2/1987
House (2)*	Derry Twp.	Ferguson Valley Road	-	3/2/1987
Hotel Lewistown	Lewistown	20 S Main St., Lewistown	-	
James Alexander Homestead (The Oaks)	Union Twp.	Rt. 655 near Belleville	-	10/19/1983
Johnson House	Granville Twp.		-	2/3/1993
Juniata Terrace Borough District	Juniata Terrace		-	3/26/2012
Kistler Historic District; Mount Union Refractories: Company Town of Kistler	Kistler	Riverside Rd. Park Rd., Beaver	-	12/19/1988
Lewistown Armory	Derry Twp.	1101 Walnut Street	5/9/1991	-
Lewistown Historic District	Lewistown		-	9/2/2004
Lewistown Hospital	Derry Twp.	4 th & Highland Avenue	-	5/9/1994
Lewistown Municipal Bldg.	Lewistown	2 East Third Street	-	4/19/2000
Main Line Canal, Juniata Division	Derry Twp.	-	2/20/2002	-
Mannerhaus (Kirby's)	Lewistown	55 Chestnut Street	-	1/27/1982
McCoy House	Lewistown	17 N. Main Street	3/14/1973	-
McVeytown Elementary School	McVeytown	10 N. Queen Street (Locust Alley)	-	5/19/1992
Mifflin County Courthouse	Lewistown	1 W. Market Street	5/28/1976	-
Milroy Historic District	Armagh Twp.		-	3/12/1993
Montgomery Ward Building	Lewistown	3-7 W. Market Street	9/7/1984	-

continued

Table 7-2 National Register of Historic Places Listed and Eligible Properties, Mifflin County

Historic Site	Municipality	Address	Listed	Eligible
Newton Hamilton Historic District	Newton Hamilton		-	11/16/1993
Old Hoopes School	Derry Twp.	JCT Vira Rd. & Rt. 522; 5m N of Lewistown	12/20/1978	-
Old Stone Arch Bridge	Derry Twp.	Jack’s Creek Rd. off Rt. 22	4/18/1979	-
Pennsylvania Railroad: Main Line (Harrisburg to Pittsburgh); Monongahela Line; Port Perry Line; Pittsburgh Line; Conemaugh Line**	Multi-County	Not applicable	-	9/14/1993
PA Railroad Lewistown JCT	Granville Twp.	50 Helen Street	-	8/5/1987
Pleasant View Dairy; Glick Farm	Derry Twp.	932 Jacks Creek Road	-	8/10/2000
S. Alexander Property; Harmon Property	Belleville	Main St.	-	4/22/1996
Stagecoach Inn**	Oliver Twp.	Rt. 22/522	-	6/14/1994
Strode, Joseph, House; Stringfellow, Michael S.**	Oliver Twp.	R. D. 2 Box 72	-	2/3/1993
William F. Kitting House	Lewistown	740 W. Fourth Street	-	4/19/1994
Wollner Building	Lewistown	16 W. Market Street	8/23/1984	-

*Sites are unknown to the Mifflin County Historical Society; they are listed but not mapped by PHMC.

**Sites are listed and mapped by PHMC but not known or mapped by Mifflin County.

Sources: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation, Cultural Resources GIS database; Mifflin County Planning Commission; Mifflin County Historical Society.

- Three eligible structures have been demolished in recent years though they remain on record with state and federal agencies; they are not shown in Table 7-2:
 1. The Mountain Laurel Trust in Oliver Township, a brick building dating to 1850.
 2. The Yeager Grist Mill, once located on the eastside S. Main St. at Mill St. in Yeagertown, Derry Township, after documentation and approved by the PA Historical and Museum Commission; rehabilitation was not feasible. The documentation is archived in the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER No. PA- 185) at the Library of Congress.
 3. The Honey Brook Bridge in Reedsville, which was replaced by a concrete structure.

Pennsylvania Historical Marker Program

Since 1946, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has captured the memory of people, places, and events that have affected the lives of Pennsylvanians in historical markers. More than 2,000 cast aluminum markers tell the stories of Native Americans and settlers, government and politics, athletes, entertainers, artists, struggles for freedom and equality, factories and businesses, and a multitude of other topics.^{0F1} There are 11 Pennsylvania Historical Markers and one Historical Plaque located in Mifflin County (Table 7-3).

PENNSYLVANIA'S AGRICULTURAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission prepared the Agricultural History Project to recognize how farming has guided Pennsylvania's economic growth and cultural development of the Commonwealth and to assist the Federal Highway Administration, PennDOT and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Bureau for Historic Preservation in evaluating these resources in planning for transportation projects across the state.^{1F2} The project researches Pennsylvania's agricultural resources circa 1700 to 1960, by region (Figure 7-2) and statewide summary. It establishes clear and specific guidance on questions of National Register eligibility, defining standards for significance and integrity according to the National Register Criteria and guidelines. As such, it can and should be used as a reference for local historic resources surveys and preservation planning.

¹ Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical Marker Program, http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=2539&&SortOrder=200&level=2&parentCommID=1586&menuLevel=Level_2&mode=2, accessed June 24, 2011.

² Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Pennsylvania's Agricultural History Project, http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/agricultural_history_project/2579, accessed June 24, 2011.

Table 7-3 Pennsylvania Historical Markers, Mifflin County

Marker, Date of Dedication	Type, Location	Categories	Marker Text
Chief Logan, March 31, 1947	Roadside SR 1005 (old U.S. 322), 0.5 mile N of Reedsville	Native American	Logan, son of Shikellamy, and famous Mingo chief, lived in a cabin near the spring opposite. It was his home from about 1766 to 1771, when he moved to the Ohio country.
Fort Granville, March 27, 1947	Roadside 1200 W. 4th St. (U.S. 22 & 522), Lewistown	Forts, French & Indian War, Military	Erected in 1755-56 along the river just south. An important link in the chain of early frontier defenses. Destroyed July 30, 1756 by French and Indians under Capt. Coulon de Villiers.
Fort Granville, May 01, 1916	Plaque 1200 W. 4th St. (US 22 & 522), Lewistown	Forts, French & Indian War, Military, Native American	About 650 yards south of this spot, on the high bank of the Juniata River, was the site of Fort Granville, which was erected in 1755-56. This fort was twice attacked by the Indians. It was destroyed on July 30, 1756, when in command of Lieut. Edward Armstrong, who was killed in the battle with a large body of French and Indians. The entire garrison was either killed or carried into captivity.
Freedom Forge, March 31, 1947	Roadside SR 1005 (old U.S. 322) at Burnham	Business & Industry, Iron & Steel	Iron and steel have been made here for over 150 years. Freedom Forge, 1795, became Freedom Iron and Steel Co., 1867. The third Bessemer plant in nation. Open hearth steel first made here in 1895.
Joseph T. Rothrock, April 01, 1947	Roadside U.S. 22 & 522 at McVeytown	Environment, Professions & Vocations	Born here April 9, 1839. Conservationist and father of the State Forest idea in Pennsylvania. Pioneer in development of forest fire control, reforestation, and scientific forestry.
Juniata Iron, August 21, 1947	Roadside U.S. 22 & 522 at Strodes Mills, 4.9 miles SW of Lewistown	Business & Industry, Coal, Iron & Steel	Along the streams of this region are ruins of many charcoal iron furnaces and forges built between 1790-1850. Juniata iron was the best in America. Its reign ended with the rise of coal and coke iron making.
Lewistown Station, October 19, 1996	Roadside Jct. Pa. 103 & Helen St., S end of Lewistown	Business & Industry, Railroads, Transportation	The oldest surviving structure known to have been built by the Pennsylvania Railroad, this station was constructed in 1848-49 as a freight handling warehouse. On September 1, 1849, this was the scene of a banquet celebrating the opening of the railroad to Lewistown. The building was renovated and converted into a passenger station in 1868.

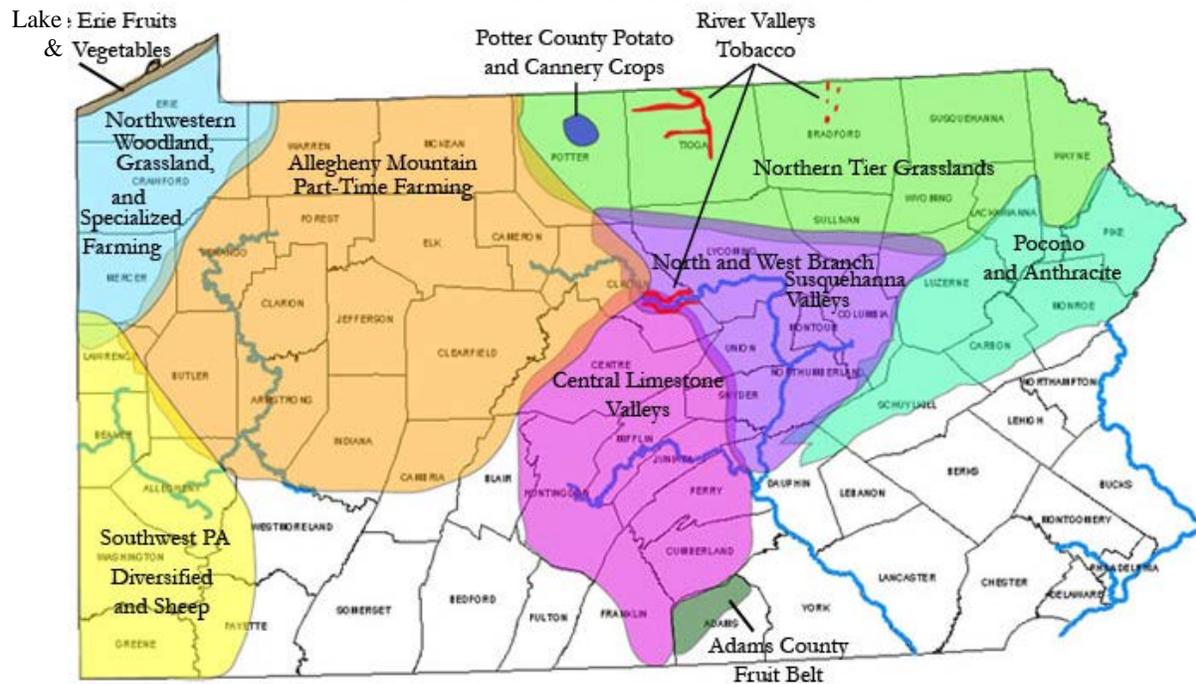
Continued

Table 7-3 Pennsylvania Historical Markers, Mifflin County (continued)

Marker, Date of Dedication	Type, Location	Categories	Marker Text
McCoy Home, March 27, 1967	City 17 N. Main St., Lewistown	Military, Military Post-Civil War	The birthplace of Major General Frank R. McCoy, 1874-1954, a graduate of West Point, who took part in Spanish American War, World Wars I & II. He was also President of the Foreign Policy Association.
Mifflin County, September 19, 1981	City Old Courthouse, Monument Square, Market & Main Sts., Lewistown	Canals, Government & Politics, Government & Politics 18th Century, Governors, Iron & Steel	Formed September 19, 1789 from Cumberland and Northumberland counties, and named for Thomas Mifflin, Governor, 1790-99. County seat, Lewistown, was laid out 1790; incorporated 1795. Important in Pennsylvania's canal development and early iron industry.
Old (Stone) Arch Bridge, March 28, 1947	Roadside Bus. 22, just E of Lewistown	Bridges, Transportation	The restored stone bridge opposite was built in 1813. It was part of the turnpike from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh. The arch is without a keystone.
Three Locks, April 01, 1947	Roadside US 22/522 near Strouds Run Rd./ Middle Rd., at Strodes Mills, 4.6 miles SW of Lewistown	Canals, Navigation, Transportation	Preserved here are three locks of the Pennsylvania Canal, Juniata Division. Unique in that three locks and levels were adjacent. Stonework and the old bed of the canal can be seen.
Travel History, March 28, 1947	Roadside US 22/322 westbound at Bus. 22 exit, near Lewistown	Bridges, Canals, Navigation, Roads, Transportation	Five stages of travel can be recalled here. Concrete covers the old turnpike. Opposite are the ruins of the old canal. The Juniata was once filled with river craft. Across the river is the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Source: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical Marker Program, http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=2539&&SortOrder=200&level=2&parentCommID=1586&menuLevel=Level_2&mode=2, accessed June 24, 2011.

Figure 7-2 Pennsylvania's Historic Agricultural Regions



Source: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

The project places Mifflin County in the Central Limestone Valleys region, which encompasses portions of Centre, Union, Mifflin, Snyder, Juniata, Clinton and Montour counties, extending south and west into Huntingdon, Perry, Cumberland, and Franklin counties.^{2F3} The Big (Kish) Valley is the focus in Mifflin County.^{3F4} A high level of mechanization, a high rate of farm tenancy, high livestock numbers, a large ratio of cropland to grassland, a Pennsylvania-German cultural influence, and narrow valleys characterized farming systems in this region. Landscape features often include barns and outbuildings that reflect machinery use and storage; tenant farms or houses; housing for livestock; Pennsylvania-German building types; and a linear pattern of farms lining a single road through each valley.

³ Correspondence with Carol Lee, Bureau of Historic Preservation,

⁴ Historic Agricultural Resources of Pennsylvania c 1700-1960: a National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form,

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pennsylvania%27s_agricultural_history/2584, accessed July 8, 2011.

RECENT PRESERVATION EFFORTS

There have been a number of historic preservation efforts in recent years to further promote the preservation of Mifflin County’s historic resources. For example, the Pennsylvania Canal Society recognized the 2000 comprehensive plan as a tool to have the Juniata Division of the Pennsylvania Main Line Canal identified as a National Register “listed” property. As stated by the society, “Mifflin County contains about 45 miles of the Juniata Division, but more importantly, it contains the only restored and watered section of the entire 127.5-mile Division and the longest restored and watered section of the entire 394.5-mile Pennsylvania Main Line System.” As a result of the society’s advocacy, the canal became listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 2/20/2002.

The Mifflin County Historic Courthouse was rededicated on September 19, 2004, the 215th anniversary of Mifflin County. The rededication was the culmination of a six-year process to renovate the Historic Courthouse, which was built in 1843. A feasibility study and master plan provided the basis for submission of a Keystone Historic Preservation grant application to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. In 1999, the County was awarded \$46,100 for exterior renovations. By 2001, repairs to the roof, exterior tower base, fascia, and columns, as well as exterior painting were completed at a total cost of \$154,129.

Extensive deterioration inside the building still existed. The county requested and was awarded \$926,000 through the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) for interior renovations. This work included restoring the courtroom, renovating the basement and first and second floors, installing an elevator, replacing the HVAC system, and upgrading the electrical service. The building currently houses the Mifflin County Historical Society, the Juniata Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, the Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau, and Downtown Lewistown, Inc.

The Mifflin County Board of Commissioners rededicated the Stone Arch Bridge between Lewistown Borough and Derry Township in 2007 after completing structural repairs and enhancements between 2005 and 2006. The work included repairing the concrete toe walls and the stone arch, reinforcing the concrete substructure within the walls, installing an interior drainage system, landscaping, bank stabilization, and constructing a walkway from Grant Avenue to the bridge. Enhancements also included donation and installation of three park benches, and a commemorative plaque. Construction costs totaled more than \$537,000 and were primarily funded by Transportation Enhancement funds.

The Board of Commissioners rededicated the Stone Arch Bridge between Lewistown Borough and Derry Township in 2007.

The Historic Courthouse was rededicated in 2004, on the 215th anniversary of the creation of Mifflin County.

HISTORIC SOCIETIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Several organizations are focused on the promotion and preservation of the County's rich history. The most prominent is the Mifflin County Historical Society. The society's mission is to promote an understanding of the history of Mifflin County and its relationships to regional and national events through preservation, research, education, and restoration. The society takes an active lead in assisting the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission by identifying and protecting resources having historical significance.

Societies and "friends" groups actively conserve the history and heritage of Mifflin County.

Other historic organizations include the Friends of the Embassy Theatre in Lewistown, Kishacoquillas Valley Historical Society, and the Pennsylvania Historical Railroad Society in Granville Township. The Friends of the Embassy Theater, an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is actively involved in the theatre's restoration and conversion into a multiple-use theater and community arts center. The Kishacoquillas Valley Historical Society was formed in 1991 in Allensville with the purpose of preserving the Kish Valley. The society owns and operates a museum in the historic "King Home" at 138 East Main Street. The society has a significant collection of primitive art by local Amish and Mennonite artists, as well as a collection of early indigenous American Indian artifacts. The museum building was built in 1838.



CHAPTER 8

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

The identification of Mifflin County’s environmental resources is an important part of the planning process. Delineation of these resources serves as a guide for planning decisions. For example, Mifflin County, as well as nine municipalities within the County, has adopted subdivision and land development ordinances that consider environmental issues in the review process for land development activity. This chapter identifies and describes these resources so they can be incorporated into planning and development policies and regulations. The data contained within this chapter and related plans will help ensure that future development in Mifflin County takes place in an environmentally sensitive manner.

Since natural resources change very slowly, much of the 2000 comprehensive plan’s resource analysis for floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes, soils, geology and karst topography, and water resources is still accurate. Since 2000, floodplain data was digitized and updated and several new documents that provide additional details and complementary information have been produced. These plans and studies include:

- The Juniata/Mifflin Counties Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan, 2010
- Mifflin County (Countywide) Stormwater Management Plan, 2010

Land and water resources have not changed significantly in the past 10 years, but recent plans and studies have recommended stronger protection.

- Mifflin County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2008
- Hungry Run 319 Watershed Implementation Plan, 2008
- A Natural Heritage Inventory of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, 2007
- Tea Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan, 2007
- Lower Kishacoquillas Creek Watershed Assessment, 2005
- Upper Kishacoquillas 319 Watershed Implementation Plan, 2004
- Kish Creek Stormwater Management Plan, 2003
- Kishacoquillas Valley Watershed Assessment and Restoration Plan, 2003
- Draft Mifflin County Water Supply Plan, 2000
- Juniata Watershed Management Plan, 2000

FLOODPLAINS

Floodplain areas absorb and store large amounts of water, which is a source of aquifer recharge. Natural vegetation supported by floodplains helps to trap sediment from upland surface runoff, stabilize stream banks, and reduce soil erosion. Floodplains also provide shelter for wildlife and proper stream conditions for aquatic life. Many scenic areas in Mifflin County are found within the floodplains of the Juniata River and larger streams, such as the Kishacoquillas Creek and Jacks Creek.

Development in the floodplain obstructs water flow and storage functions and results in significant risk to life and property as well increased public service costs for rescue. Regulation of land use and development in floodplains helps to reduce the threat to human life and property caused by periodic flooding. For regulatory purposes, a floodplain is defined by the 100-year or base flood which has a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in a given year.

Regulation of land use and development in floodplains helps to reduce the threat to human life and property caused by naturally occurring flooding.

The Pennsylvania Floodplain Management Act (Act 166 of 1978) requires municipalities identified as being flood-prone, to enact floodplain regulations which, at a minimum, meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP is a federal program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that allows property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding.

Mifflin County's 100-year floodplain boundaries are shown on Figure 8-1. The current boundaries of the county's floodplains reflect extensive updates that were created as part of a Cooperating Technical Partners

program involving Mifflin County staff and students from Juniata College. Updates took place in 2001, 2002, and 2003 and involved digitizing the maps, more closely matching floodplain boundaries to the actual topography, and correcting specific known problem areas on the maps. The county's current digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) also reflect these updated floodplains and have a date of August, 16, 2006.

Flooding is the most common hazard to life and property in Mifflin County.

According to FEMA's NFIP Community Status Book, all municipalities, except for Juniata Terrace Borough, which is located at a higher elevation than the floodplain, participate in the NFIP program and each has adopted a floodplain (protection) ordinance to regulate development within the floodplain. Additionally, Granville and Union Townships and Lewistown Borough participate in the Community Rating System program. This voluntary program rewards communities that take proactive steps to reduce flood losses, facilitate accurate insurance ratings, and promote awareness of flood insurance. These municipalities' activities have earned residents of each a 10% discount on flood insurance premiums.

WETLANDS

Wetlands are unique environments that perform a variety of important functions. They moderate stormwater runoff and downstream flood crests because they are natural water storage areas. Wetlands provide important habitat for many species of plant and animal life. Wetlands also help to maintain stream flow and groundwater recharge.

Disturbance or development of wetland soils can cause problems for structures and for the environment. Draining or filling of upland wetlands removes natural water storage, which can increase downstream flooding. Wetland soils are easily compacted under pressure, which can result in the uneven settling of structures. Wetland soils are also not suitable for the installation of on-lot septic systems.

Disturbance of wetlands can have significant downstream impacts.

Laws, such as the Federal Clean Water Act and similar state and local laws have led to the enforcement of wetland protection. In Pennsylvania, development in wetland areas is strictly regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Therefore, any development of these areas is subject to both federal and state permitting processes.

As shown on Figure 8-1, wetland areas are found in most municipalities with the highest concentrations occurring along the Juniata River. The wetland areas shown were derived from the 1980 National Wetland Inventory, which was prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery

in conjunction with collateral data sources and limited field work. It does not fully represent the extent and locations of all wetlands in the County. A site-specific wetland delineation study is needed to determine the presence, location and extent of wetlands on any particular parcel.

STEEP SLOPES

Mifflin County is located entirely within the tightly folded and faulted Ridge and Valley Province of the Appalachian Physiographic Region. As a result, much of the County contains sizeable areas of steep slopes of 15 percent or greater, especially in municipalities located along Jacks Mountain, Blue Mountain, Stone Mountain, Broad Mountain, and Long Mountain (Figure 8-2). The 2010 Juniata/Mifflin Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan notes that 51 percent of the county's land area meets the definition of a steep slope. The combination of soil quality (classes 4, 6, 7 or 8), topography (steep slopes) and climate (wind and rainfall) result in highly erodible soils across approximately 45,000 acres of the county. Fortunately, woodlands provide significant cover and stability for most of these acres.

If disturbed, steep slope areas can yield heavy sediment loads on streams. Very steep slopes, with over 25 percent grade, produce heavy soil erosion and sediment loading. The four factors influencing soil erosion are vegetation, soil type, slope size and inclination, and the frequency and intensity of rainfall. On most surfaces, vegetation is the single most important erosion control factor. The higher the cover density, the lower the soil loss to runoff. Most steep slopes within the county are currently wooded, greatly reducing erosion. However, most steep slopes are also under private ownership, meaning that the vegetative cover of these lands is subject to change, based on a landowner's desire for his or her property.

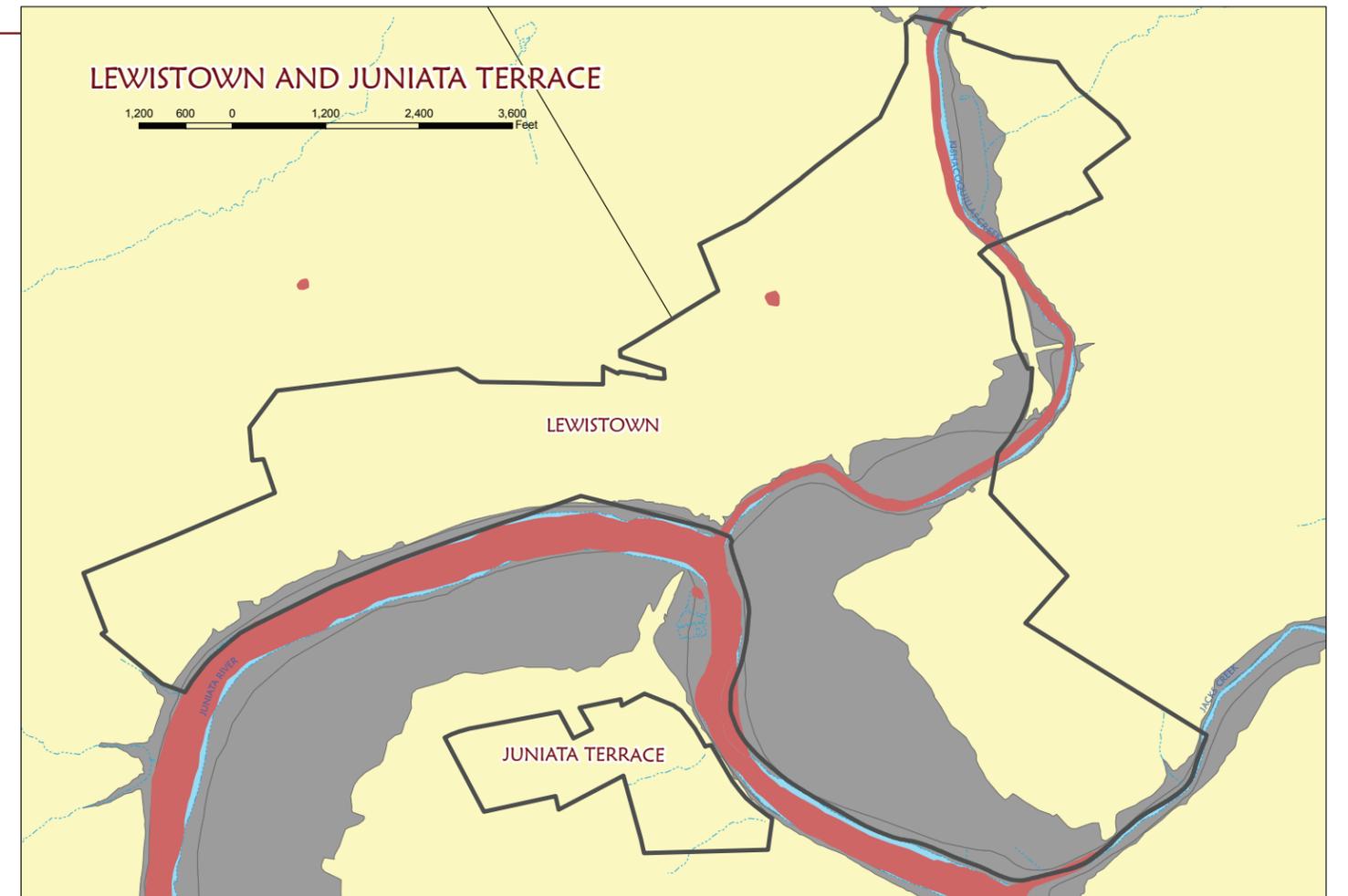
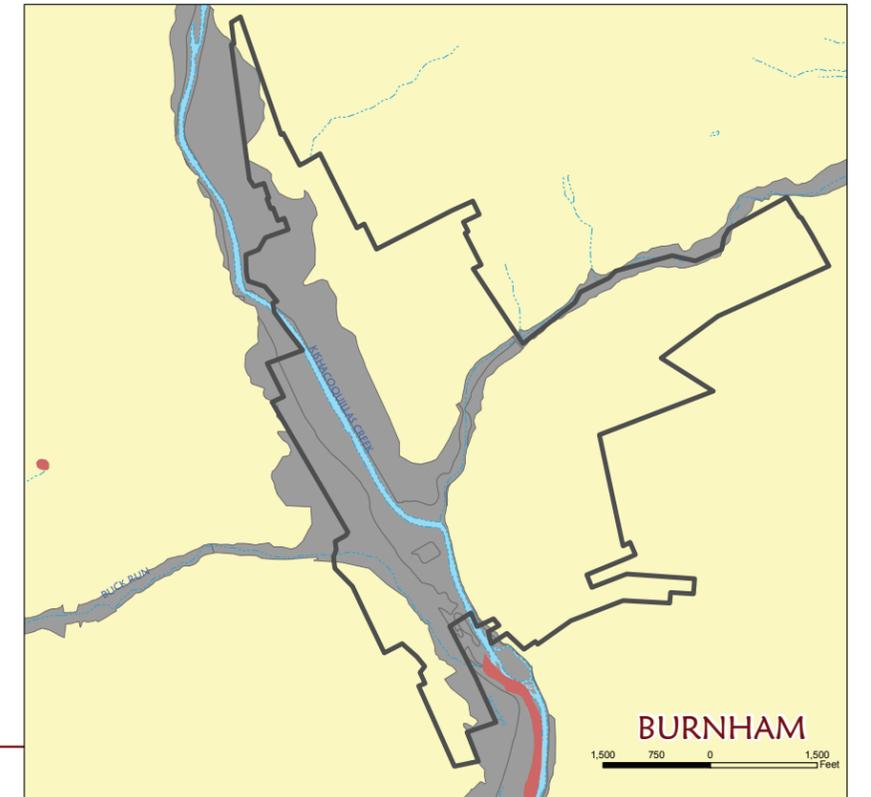
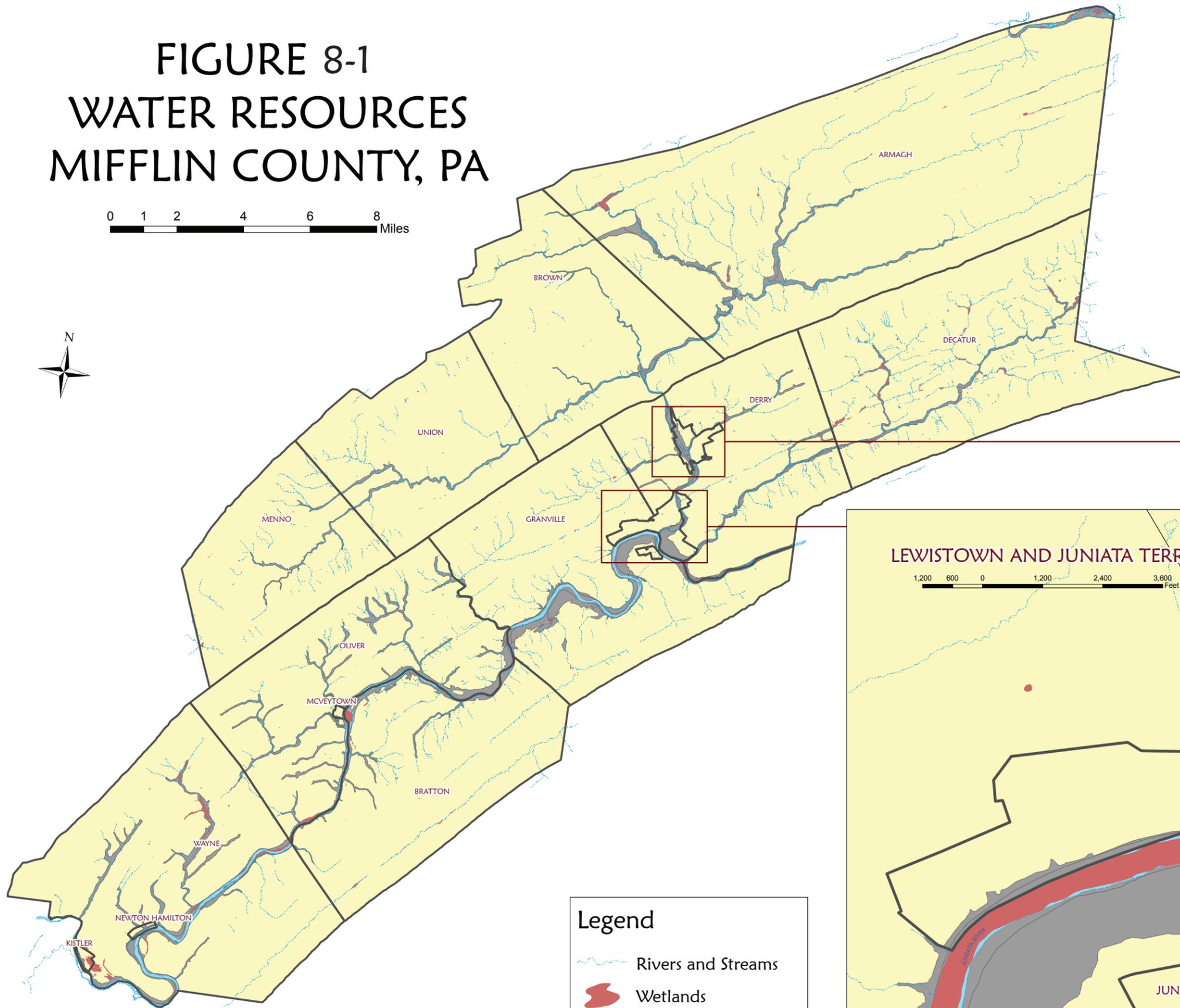
Steep slopes are difficult to build on, in effect conserving forests and surface water quality.

Though erosion of steep slope areas is a natural process, development activities in these areas can exacerbate problems. Development on steep slopes typically involves clearing and grading, which increase the risk of soil and wind erosion and sedimentation in streams. However, by directing water runoff from buildings and impervious surfaces away from the face of steeper slopes, severe soil erosion and drainage problems can be avoided.

Steep slopes are a challenge but not a barrier to the development of wind turbines, making steep slope protection an important environmental issue for county and local land development ordinances.

FIGURE 8-1 WATER RESOURCES MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles



Legend

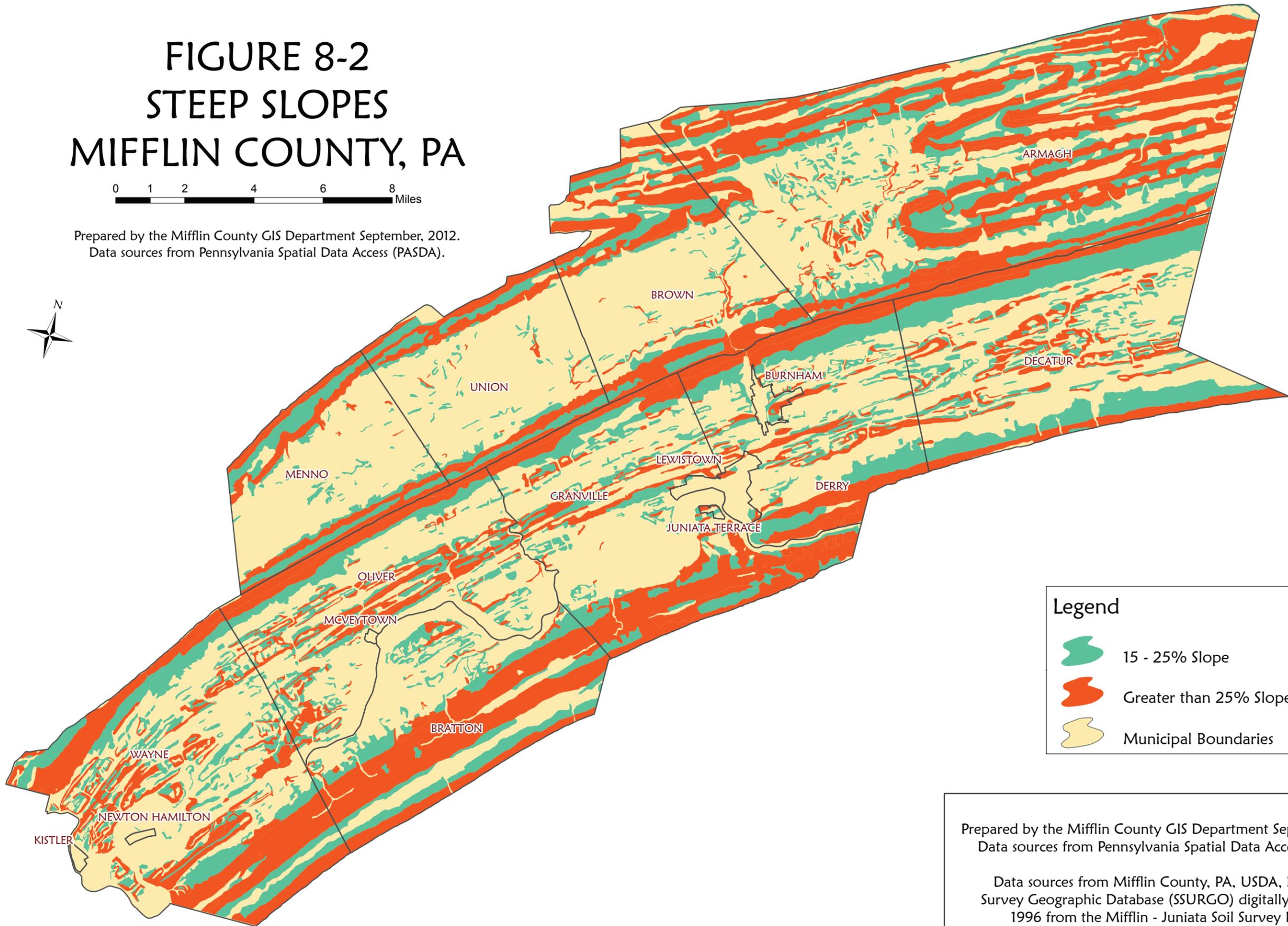
- Rivers and Streams
- Wetlands
- Floodplain
- Municipal Boundaries

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2012.
Data sources from Mifflin County, National Wetlands Inventory,
1988 and FEMA Floodplain Data, 2006.

FIGURE 8-2 STEEP SLOPES MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department September, 2012.
Data sources from Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA).



Legend

-  15 - 25% Slope
-  Greater than 25% Slope
-  Municipal Boundaries

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department September, 2012.
Data sources from Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA).

Data sources from Mifflin County, PA, USDA, NRCS Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) digitally updated in 1996 from the Mifflin - Juniata Soil Survey Report.

Septic systems for on-lot sewage disposal are impractical to construct and maintain on very steep slopes because the downhill flow of the effluent is too rapid. Improperly treated effluent is likely to surface at the base of the slope, causing wet, contaminated seepage spots. If there is a layer of impervious material such as dense clay or rock under shallow soils, the effluent may surface on the slope and run downhill unfiltered.

SOILS

The Soil Survey produced by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service combines soils into soil associations, which emphasize how soil depth, slope, and drainage affect potential land use. The associations are helpful in attaining a general idea of soil quality, in comparing different sections of the County; and locating large areas suited certain uses.

The 2010 Juniata/Mifflin Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan contains details about the specific soil associations located within the county and includes a chapter on agriculture within the county that discusses soil considerations. Several general issues regarding soil, however, are discussed below.

PRIME AGRICULTURAL SOILS

Prime farmland, as defined by the USDA, is the land that is best suited to producing food, feed, forage, and fiber and oilseed crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and water supply needed to economically produce a sustained high yield of crops when it is treated and managed using acceptable farming methods. Prime farmland soils are usually classified as capability Class I or II. Of the Mifflin County's total land area, 3,077 acres (1.2 percent) are classified as Class I soils and 42,502 acres (16.1 percent) are classified as Class II soils.

Farmland soils of statewide importance are those soils that are predominantly used for agricultural purposes within a given state, but have some limitations that reduce their productivity or increase the amount of energy and economic resources necessary to obtain productivity levels similar to prime farmland soils. These soils are usually classified as capability Class II or III. As shown on Figure 8-3, Mifflin County's prime agricultural soils are concentrated in the Kishacoquillas Valley, Ferguson Valley, Juniata River Valley, and those valleys located throughout Derry and Decatur Townships.

A portion of the 45,000 acres of prime farmland has already built upon and is no longer available for agriculture, open space and groundwater recharge.

FARMLAND PROTECTION FROM DEVELOPMENT

Development of farmland soils reduces overall agricultural production potential and farmland (food) security. Mifflin County has 45,578 acres of prime agricultural soils. A portion of these soils has already been built upon by residential, commercial and other intensive uses. In recent years (1999-2007), 631 acres of farmland have been converted to non-agricultural uses.

The loss of farmland is both a land use issue and an environmental concern, since development generally significantly impairs if not destroys the productive qualities of the soil and impedes infiltration. Agricultural use protections were established by the Agricultural Security Act, Act 43 of 1981, and expanded to include the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program in 1988. See Chapter 5 for descriptions of these programs. Mifflin County had a total of 40,113 acres of farmland in ASAs and 2,295 acres across 21 farms preserved from development in February 2014.

Just over 40,000 acres are enrolled in Agricultural Security Areas, demonstrating intent for future farming.

HIGHLY ERODIBLE SOILS

Of the 64,625 acres of farmland in Mifflin County, approximately 45,000 acres are considered highly erodible as defined by the USDA. Therefore, agricultural activities should be conducted in accord with County conservation district approved conservation plans. Conservation plans have been written for approximately 36,000 acres in Mifflin County.

ON-LOT SEPTIC SUITABILITY

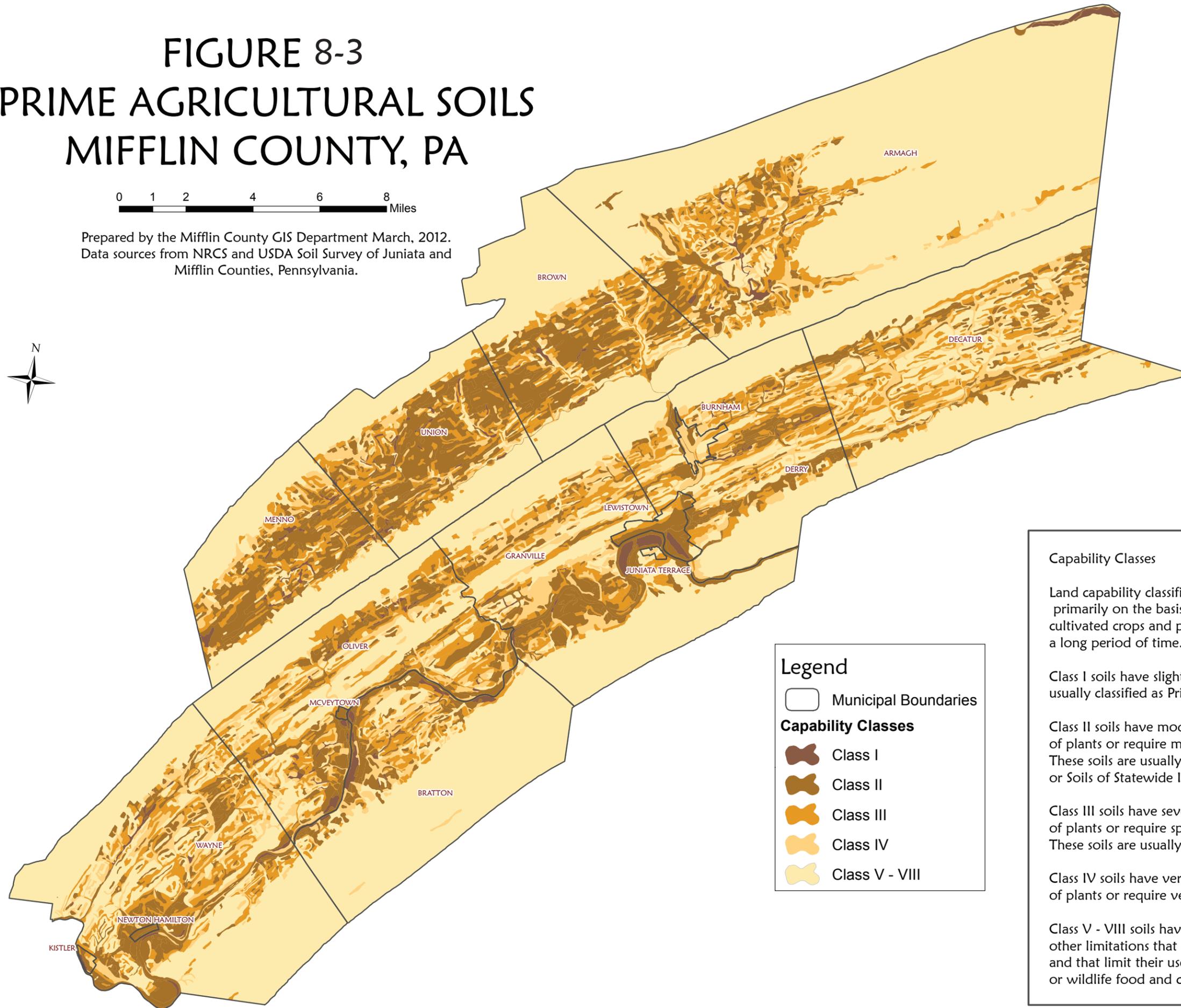
The soil properties, which are of primary concern in the unsewered portions of the County, are the suitability for septic tank installation. Soil properties affecting effluent absorption are permeability, depth to seasonal high water table, depth to bedrock, slope, and susceptibility to flooding. Without proper soil conditions, septic tanks will not operate properly and health hazards may result.

Improper siting and maintenance of on-lot septic systems can result in malfunctioning systems that threaten water quality and that may need to be addressed with the extension of public sewer service. According to the soil survey, approximately 87 percent of the County's soils have a severe limitation(s) for septic tank absorption field suitability. Soil reclamation, special technologies, or intensive system maintenance may be required to achieve satisfactory system performance, including water quality protection for drinking water supplies.

FIGURE 8-3 PRIME AGRICULTURAL SOILS MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department March, 2012.
Data sources from NRCS and USDA Soil Survey of Juniata and Mifflin Counties, Pennsylvania.



Legend

- Municipal Boundaries
- Capability Classes**
- Class I
- Class II
- Class III
- Class IV
- Class V - VIII

Capability Classes

Land capability classification is a system of grouping soils primarily on the basis of their capability to produce common cultivated crops and pasture plants without deteriorating over a long period of time.

Class I soils have slight limitations that restrict their use and are usually classified as Prime Farmland Soils.

Class II soils have moderate limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require moderate conservation practices. These soils are usually classified as either Prime Farmland Soils or Soils of Statewide Importance.

Class III soils have severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require special conservation practices, or both. These soils are usually classified as Soils of Statewide Importance.

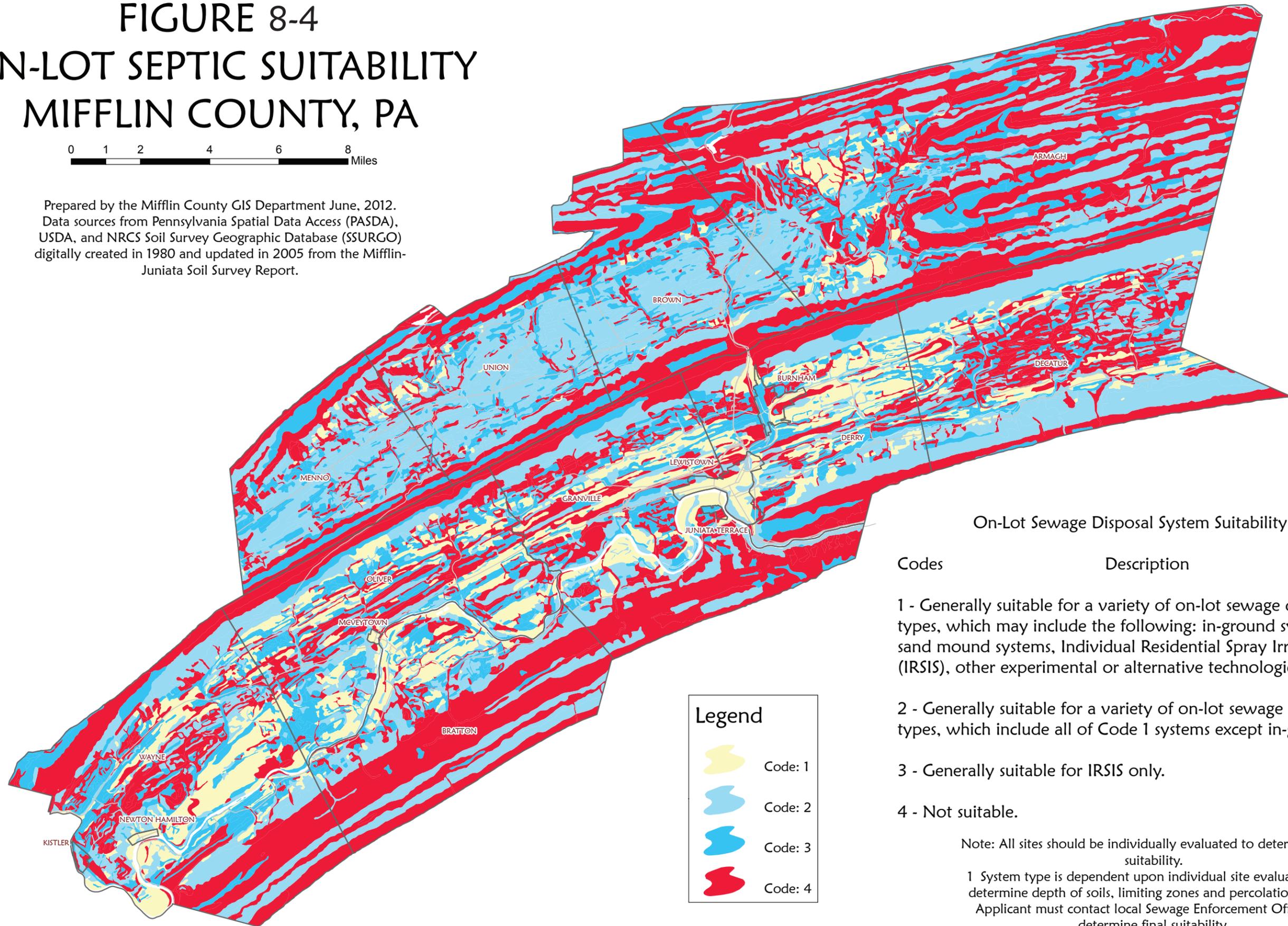
Class IV soils have very severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or require very careful management, or both.

Class V - VIII soils have little or no hazard of erosion but have other limitations that make them generally unsuited to cultivation and that limit their use mainly to pasture, range, forestland, or wildlife food and cover.

FIGURE 8-4 ON-LOT SEPTIC SUITABILITY MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department June, 2012.
Data sources from Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA),
USDA, and NRCS Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO)
digitally created in 1980 and updated in 2005 from the Mifflin-
Juniata Soil Survey Report.



On-Lot Sewage Disposal System Suitability Codes ¹

Codes	Description
1	Generally suitable for a variety of on-lot sewage disposal system types, which may include the following: in-ground systems, elevated sand mound systems, Individual Residential Spray Irrigation Systems (IRSIS), other experimental or alternative technologies.
2	Generally suitable for a variety of on-lot sewage disposal system types, which include all of Code 1 systems except in-ground systems.
3	Generally suitable for IRSIS only.
4	Not suitable.

Note: All sites should be individually evaluated to determine final suitability.
¹ System type is dependent upon individual site evaluations to determine depth of soils, limiting zones and percolation rates. Applicant must contact local Sewage Enforcement Officer to determine final suitability.

Figure 8-4 identifies the soil locations which are potentially unsuitable for on-lot systems; suitable for alternative systems such as trench-type and elevated sand mound technologies; and potentially suitable for conventional gravity fed systems. It is important to note that analysis at this scale, based upon available data, is no substitute for site testing. This analysis should be used only as a general indication of those areas that may be suitable for on-lot systems. On-site soil testing is needed to determine actual suitability.

Approximately 87 percent of the County's soils have a severe limitation for septic tank absorption field suitability.

The following sewer service extensions built over the past 10 years have protected groundwater resources for public and private water supply:

- Oliver Township along US 522 (70 homes), 2011
- the Back Maitland Road in Derry Township (220 homes), 2011
- the Newton Hamilton-Wayne Township area (460 homes), 2011
- the Jewel St. project in Granville Township (3 homes), 2007
- the Village of Lockport in Oliver Township, (23 homes), 2006, and
- Granville Township along Route 103 (13 homes), 2003.

In addition, Bratton Township established a public sewer system (treatment plan and collection system) to serve 295 homes in 2005.

GEOLOGY

Exposed or surface bedrock in Mifflin County is sedimentary in origin and includes 23 different geologic formations. The resistant sandstone formations, such as the Tuscarora, Juniata and Bald Eagle Formations, form the steep topography and limit development in the County by their difficulty to excavate. The less resistant limestone and shale formations, such as the Keyser and Tonoloway Formations and Clinton Group, form the valleys where development can more readily occur based on ease of excavation and groundwater yields. Mifflin County's geologic formations are characterized in Table 8-1 and illustrated in Figure 8-5.

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES

Mifflin County has abundant water resources resulting from an average annual precipitation of about 37.5 inches. On average, there are about 329 million gallons of water available per day countywide.¹ Seven of the 23 geologic formations in the County yield more than one gallon of groundwater per minute.

¹ Mifflin County Water Supply Plan, Draft 2000

Geologic formations create the soil and water conditions that make the valley fertile.

Groundwater quality and supply is ultimately controlled by bedrock geology. Geologic factors such as rock type, intergranular porosity, rock strata inclination, faults, joints, folds, bedding planes, and solution channels affect groundwater movement and availability. Groundwater quality is dependent on the interaction between the groundwater and the bedrock. The more soluble bedrock, such as limestone, allows more compounds to be dissolved in the groundwater, resulting in increased hardness values.

Groundwater quality in Mifflin County is generally very good and suitable for potable uses. Groundwater quality is at risk in localized areas of the County that have commercial, industrial and concentrated agricultural businesses.

SURFACE WATERS AND WATERSHEDS

Surface waters include rivers, streams and ponds, which provide aquatic habitat, carry or hold runoff from storms, and provide recreation and scenic opportunities. Surface water resources are a dynamic and important component of the natural environment, but ever-present threats such as pollution, construction, clear-cutting, mining, and overuse have required the protection of these valuable resources. The majority of Mifflin County drains into the Lower Juniata River, which flows into the Susquehanna River at Duncannon, which joins the Chesapeake Bay at Havre de Grace, and which flows into the Atlantic Ocean. The Kishacoquillas Creek and Jacks Creek, as well as Mill Creek and East Licking Creek, drain into the Juniata River. Penns Creek, which drains the far northeastern portion of the County, drains directly into the Susquehanna River. Mifflin County's watersheds are shown in Figure 8-6 and listed in Table 8-2. Rivers and streams are shown in Figure 8-1.

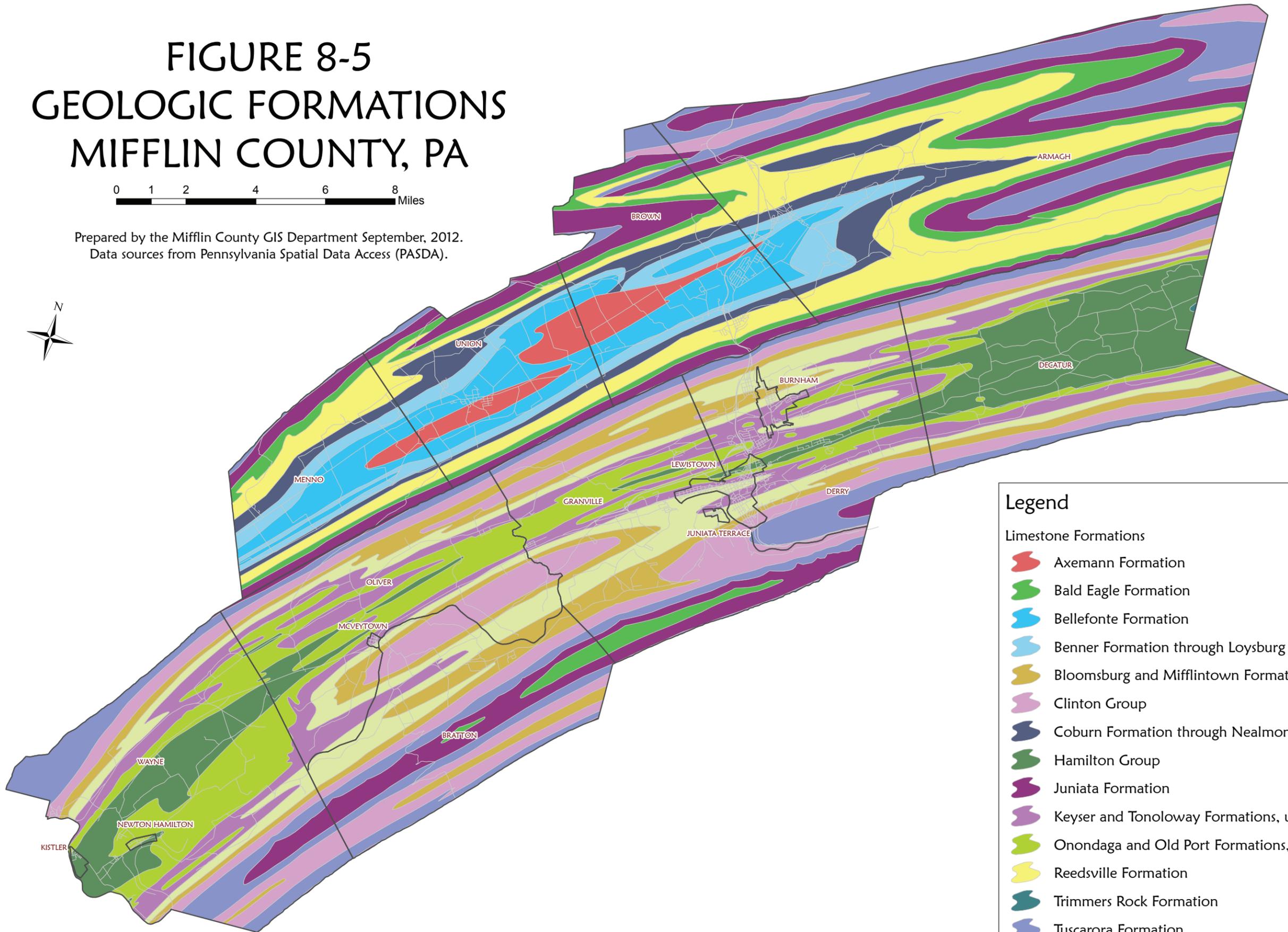
The high quality designation given to most streams and watersheds in the County is due in large part to the forested mountains.

The Pennsylvania Chapter 93 Water Quality Standards classify all surface waters according to their water quality criteria and protected water uses. Selected waterbodies that exhibit exceptional water quality and other environmental features are referred to as "Special Protection Waters." High quality (HQ) waters have exceeded either the chemistry criteria or the biological criteria for at least one year; exceptional value (EV) waters have met these same criteria and are located in a designated state or national wilderness or recreation area or have exceptional ecological significance. Certain activities in those watersheds that could adversely affect surface water are more stringently regulated to prevent degradation. All land development, sewage treatment and disposal, industrial and municipal waste, mining and quarrying, timber harvesting, stormwater management, and confined feeding operations must follow requirements

FIGURE 8-5 GEOLOGIC FORMATIONS MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department September, 2012.
Data sources from Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA).



Legend

- Limestone Formations**
-  Axemann Formation
 -  Bald Eagle Formation
 -  Bellefonte Formation
 -  Benner Formation through Loysburg Formation, undivided
 -  Bloomsburg and Mifflintown Formations, undivided
 -  Clinton Group
 -  Coburn Formation through Nealmont Formation, undivided
 -  Hamilton Group
 -  Juniata Formation
 -  Keyser and Tonoloway Formations, undivided
 -  Onondaga and Old Port Formations, undivided
 -  Reedsville Formation
 -  Trimmers Rock Formation
 -  Tuscarora Formation
 -  Wills Creek Formation

Table 8-1 – Engineering Characteristics of Geologic Formations in Mifflin County

Formation	Description	Porosity	Permeability	Ease of Excavation	Foundation Stability*	Quantity of Groundwater (Median Yield)
Axemann Fm	Light gray limestone	Moderate to High	Moderate	Difficult	Good	100 gpm
Bald Eagle Fm	Fine to coarse grained, crossbedded sandstone	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Difficult	Good	10 gpm
Bellfont Fm	Very fine grained dolomite; minor sandstone beds	Low to Moderate	Low	Difficult	Good	100 gal/min
Benner Fm	Very finely crystalline limestone	Moderate to High	Low	Difficult	Good	50 gpm
Bloomsburg Fm	Red shale and siltstone	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Moderately easy	Good	45 gpm
Clinton Group	Fossiliferous sandstone; hematitic sandstone and shale	Low	Low	Moderate	Good	12 gpm
Coburn Fm	Fossiliferous, shaly limestone	Moderate to High	High	Difficult	Fair	130 gpm
Loysburg Fm	Shaly limestone	Moderate to High	Moderate	Difficult	Good	50 gpm
Hamilton Group	Fossiliferous siltstone and shale; oolitic hematite; conglomerate	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	30 gpm
Juniata Fm	Brownish-red, fine-grained to conglomerate, quartzitic sandstone	Low	Low	Difficult	Good	17 gpm
Keyser Fm	Medium-gray limestone and calcareous shale	Medium to High	Moderate to Low	Difficult	Good	30 gpm
Mifflintown Fm	Shale interbedded with fossiliferous limestone	Low	Moderate to Low	Moderate to Difficult	Good	20 gpm
Nealmont Fm	Coarsely crystalline, fossiliferous limestone	Moderate to High	Moderate	Difficult	Good	50 gpm
Old Port Fm	Includes sandstone, chert, shale, and limestone	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	Difficult	Good	5 gpm
Onondaga Fm	Medium-gray limestone and calcareous shale	Moderate	Moderate to Low	Difficult	Good	30 gpm
Reedsville Fm	Shale containing thin sandy to silty shale interbeds	Low	Low	Moderately easy	Good	15 gpm
Tonoloway Fm	Laminated limestone interbedded with shale and siltstone	Moderate	Moderate to Low	Difficult	Good	30 gpm
Trimmers Rock Fm	Fine-grained sandstone and siltstone	Moderate	Moderate to Low	Moderate	Good	30 gpm
Tuscarora Fm	Sandstone and quartzite	Low to Moderate	Low	Difficult	Good	23 gpm
Wills Creek Fm	Greenish-gray shale containing local limestone and sandstone	Low	Low	Moderate	Good	32 gpm

* Formations containing limestone should be investigated thoroughly for solution openings.

Sources: Pennsylvania State University, Earth Resources Research Institute, 1994. Alan R. Geyer and J. Peter Wilshusen, Engineering Characteristics of the Rocks of Pennsylvania. 1992. (Pennsylvania Geological Survey, Harrisburg, PA).

found in the Special Protection Waters Implementation Handbook, or other regulations relative to Special Protection Waters. These regulations have impacted development in Mifflin County, namely where high quality waters are located downstream of proposed on-lot septic systems.

More than half of Mifflin County's land area lies within high quality, cold water fisheries (HQ-CWF) watersheds, including the Honey Creek and Laurel Creek Watersheds (mostly Armagh Township) and all tributaries to the Juniata River upstream from Lewistown (Kistler, McVeytown, and Newton Hamilton Boroughs; Bratton, Granville, Oliver, and Wayne Townships).

These high quality conditions are due in part to land use and land cover patterns (forest and farmland, and vegetated riparian buffers) in these municipalities. The Kishacoquillas Creek (and its tributaries, below Tea Creek), Jacks Creek and Buck Run, are classified as trout stocked fisheries (TSF). The Juniata River is the only surface water body in the County classified as a warm water fishery (WWF).

Surface waters with protected water uses are listed in Table 8-2.

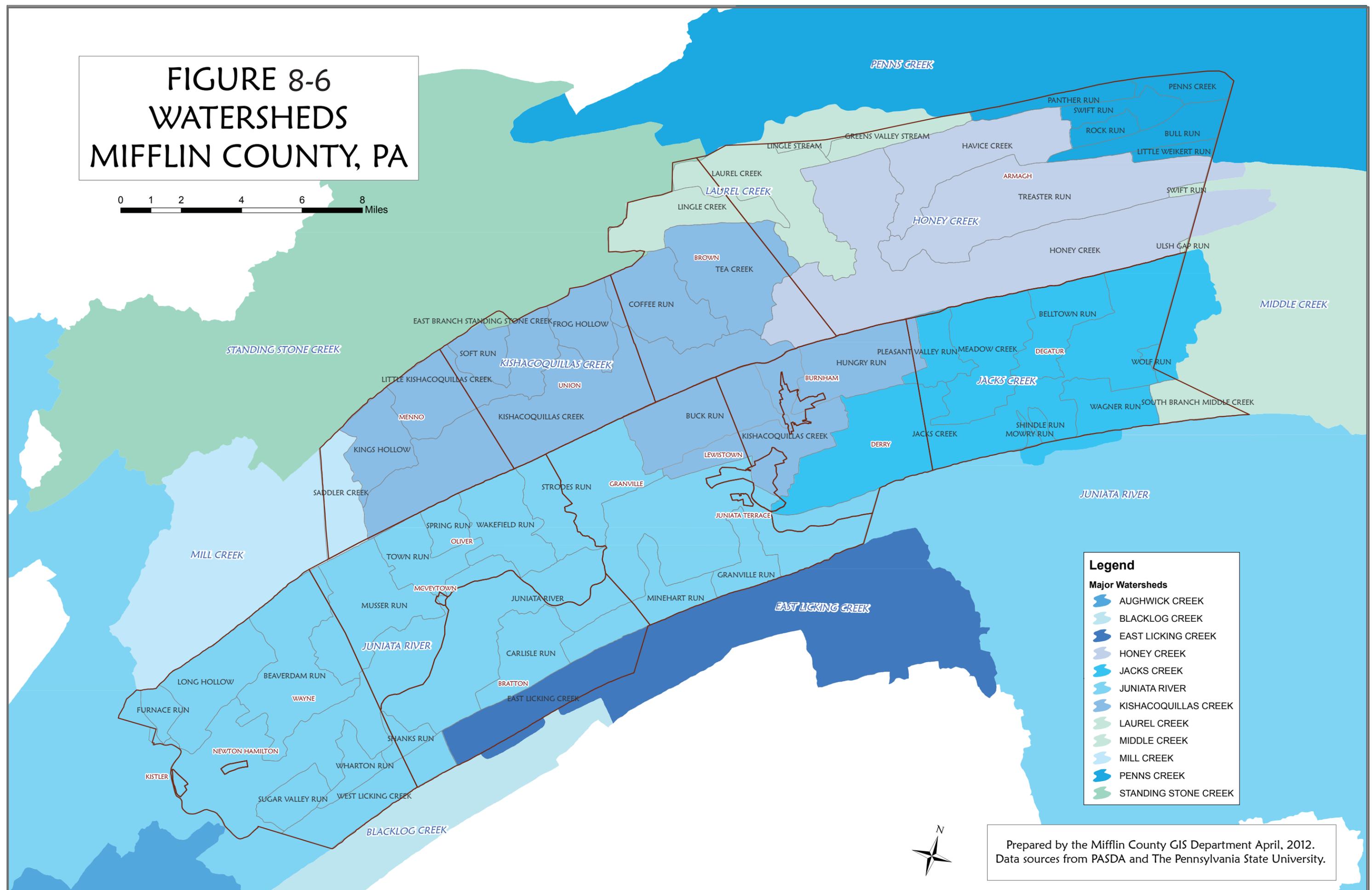
SURFACE WATER QUALITY

Since the 2000 comp plan, DEP assessed the water quality of all the surface waters in the county (in 2002) and determined that 123.7 miles of county waterways don't meet the water quality standards assigned in Chapter 93, and are impaired according to the federal Clean Water Act. PA DEP has approved limits to pollutants discharged to certain waters in the County.

Nearly 125 miles of waterways in Mifflin County don't meet the state water quality standards, and are impaired according to the federal Clean Water Act.

Total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) of metals and organics have been established for the Frankstown and Beaverdam Branches of the Juniata River. In addition, draft TMDLs were published for the Upper Kish and Hungry Run in 2011. Stream modifications and storm sewer discharges have affected water flow and quality in other streams but have not resulted in long-term water quality impacts.

**FIGURE 8-6
WATERSHEDS
MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA**



Legend

Major Watersheds

- AUGHWICK CREEK
- BLACKLOG CREEK
- EAST LICKING CREEK
- HONEY CREEK
- JACKS CREEK
- JUNIATA RIVER
- KISHACOQUILLAS CREEK
- LAUREL CREEK
- MIDDLE CREEK
- MILL CREEK
- PENNS CREEK
- STANDING STONE CREEK



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2012.
Data sources from PASDA and The Pennsylvania State University.

Table 8-2 Major Watersheds and Streams with Protected Water Uses per Chapter 93

Major Watersheds and Waters with Protected Water Uses	Municipal Locations	Water Uses Protected (as listed in Chapter 93)
Juniata River (main stem)	Huntingdon County; Kistler, Wayne, Newton Hamilton, Bratton, Oliver, McVeytown, Granville, Lewistown, Derry; Juniata County	Main Stem, Confluence of Frankstown Branch and Little Juniata River to Mouth: WWF, MF
Furnace Run	Wayne	HQ-CWF, MF
West Licking Creek	Wayne	HQ-CWF, MF
Sugar Valley Run	Wayne	CWF, MF
Beaverdam Run	Oliver, Wayne	HQ-CWF, MF
Wharton Run	Wayne	HQ-CWF, MF
Shanks Run	Bratton, Wayne	HQ-CWF, MF
Musser Run	Oliver, McVeytown, Wayne	HQ-CWF, MF
Town Run	Oliver, McVeytown	HQ-CWF, MF
Wakefield Run	Oliver	HQ-CWF, MF
Carlisle Run	Bratton	HQ-CWF, MF
Strodes Run	Granville, Oliver	HQ-CWF, MF
Minehart Run	Granville, Bratton	HQ-CWF, MF
Granville Run	Granville	HQ-CWF, MF
Kishacoquillas Creek	Menno, Union, Brown, Granville, Derry, Burnham, Lewistown	Source to Tea Creek: CWF, MF; Tea Creek to railroad bridge between Yeagertown and Burnham: TSF, MF; Main Stem, Yeagertown/Burnham Railroad Bridge to SR 2005 (Mill Road) Bridge at Mount Rock: HQ-CWF, MF; Basins, Yeagertown/Burnham Railroad Bridge to Mill Road Bridge: TSF, MF;
Honey Creek	Snyder County; Armagh, Brown	HQ-CWF, MF
Treaster Run	Armagh; Snyder County	HQ-CWF, MF
Laurel Creek	Centre County; Armagh, Brown	
Frog Hollow	Union	HQ-CWF, MF
Tea Creek	Brown, Armagh	HQ-CWF, MF
Hungry Run	Burnham, Derry	TSF, MF
Buck Run	Burnham, Derry, Granville	TSF, MF
Jacks Creek	Snyder County; Decatur, Derry, Lewistown	Source to Meadow Creek: CWF, MF; Meadow Creek to Mouth: TSF, MF
Meadow Creek	Decatur	CWF, MF

continued

Table 8-2 Major Watersheds and Streams with Protected Water Uses per Chapter 93 (continued)

Major Watersheds and Waters with Protected Water Uses	Municipal Locations	Water Uses Protected (as listed in Chapter 93)
East Licking Creek	Bratton	Source to Clearview Reservoir Water Supply Intake: HQ-CWF, MF
Ulsh Gap Run	Armagh; Union County	HQ-CWF, MF
South Branch Middle Creek	Decatur; Snyder County	TSF, MF
Swift Run	Armagh; Union County	HQ-CWF, MF
Penns Creek	Centre County; Armagh; Union County	
Swift Run	Armagh	HQ-CWF, MF
Standing Stone Creek	Union; Huntingdon County	HQ-CWF, MF
East Branch Standing Stone Creek	Union; Huntingdon County	
Mill Creek	Menno; Huntingdon County	TSF, MF
Saddler Creek	Menno; Huntingdon County	

Notes:

- CWF *Cold Water Fishes*—Maintenance or propagation, or both, of fish species including the family Salmonidae and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a cold water habitat.
- WWF *Warm Water Fishes*—Maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.
- MF *Migratory Fishes*—Passage, maintenance and propagation of anadromous and catadromous fishes and other fishes which move to or from flowing waters to complete their life cycle in other waters.
- TSF *Trout Stocking*—Maintenance of stocked trout from February 15 to July 31 and maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.
- HQ *High Quality Waters*

Source: Title 25 Environmental Protection of the Pennsylvania Code, §93 Water Quality Standards

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

An Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan for the Jacks Creek Watershed was completed and approved by PA DEP in 1996. An Act 167 Plan for the Kishacoquillas Creek Watershed, which includes Honey, Tea and Laurel Creeks, was completed and approved in 2003. A countywide Stormwater Management Plan was prepared in 2010, including a model stormwater management ordinance.

According to the Stormwater Management Act, each municipality within the area covered by the Mifflin County Stormwater Management Plan is

required to adopt or amend and implement ordinances and other regulations (parts of zoning, building code, subdivision and land development, and erosion and sedimentation control ordinances, etc.) that regulate development within the municipality in a manner consistent with the County's Plan and the provisions of the Stormwater Management Act. As of early 2014, 5 of the 16 municipalities have adopted the ordinance or amended their municipal ordinance, as required.

Some municipalities in the Kish Creek watershed adopted the watershed management plan between 2004 and 2007 but have not adopted the model ordinance presented in the countywide stormwater management plan.

Various public agencies, organizations, and concerned citizens within the Juniata River watershed have recognized the importance of protecting and restoring the Juniata River and its tributaries through the creation of the Juniata Clean Water Partnership (JCWP). The JCWP is a team of citizens, community groups, non-profit conservation organizations, County planning offices, and County conservation districts who spearheaded local support for the development of a Rivers Conservation Plan. The plan was completed in September, 2000. The plan noted that the primary concerns within Mifflin County were the following:

- Storm water runoff
- Surface water contamination from malfunctioning septic systems
- Ground water contamination from malfunctioning septic systems
- Illegal roadside dumping
- Contamination of private wells from unknown sources
- Nutrient runoff from agricultural operations
- Stream bank damage from non-agricultural sources

Members of the Juniata Clean Water Partnership work to protect and restore the Juniata River and its tributaries.

Efforts have begun to address these issues: the Mifflin County Stormwater Management Ordinance, the Mifflin County Chapter of PA Cleanways, and the County Conservation District (E&S and streambank issues).

KARST TOPOGRAPHY

Karst refers to any terrain where the topography has been formed chiefly by the dissolving of rock. Landforms associated with karst include sinkholes, caves, sinking streams, springs, and solution valleys. Portions of Mifflin County are underlain by limestone geology, which is susceptible to the formation of solution caverns and sinkholes, especially when water flows are concentrated. PA DEP has mapped known sinkholes, which are concentrated in Derry Township and in the Kish Valley in Union, Brown

and Armagh Townships. Sinkholes are also common in Menno Township, according to the Conservation District. Caves and caverns are also present in the county. Karst features mapped by PA DEP are shown in Figure 8-7. These include hundreds of acres of limestone geology, 19 caves, more than 150 sinkholes, more than 300 surface depressions, and 18 surface mines.

The limestone geology beneath much of the County is susceptible to surface depressions, sinkholes, and caves.

Stormwater runoff can exacerbate sinkhole activity in karst areas. Development, specifically impervious surfaces, impacts water flow (concentration) and water quality as rain falls to the ground and drains over surfaces toward streams and rivers. According to Kochanov, “The stormwater drainage problem is compounded in karst areas by the fact that development reduces the surface area available for rainwater to infiltrate the surface in a dispersed pattern.

A typical residential development having quarter-acre lots may reduce the natural ground surface by 25 percent, whereas a shopping center and parking lot may reduce it by 100 percent. If storm water, gathered over a specific area, is collected and directed into a karst area, the concentration of water may unplug one of the karst drains” (p.19).² Karst topography in Mifflin County has, in fact, impacted development proposals: the location of a potential school, industry, and a concentrated animal operation.

Because of the unique geologic and hydrologic features associated with highly developed subterranean networks, the scope of problems related to the karst environment is large, with the depletion and contamination of groundwater supplies among the most severe. Illegal trash dumps near sinkholes represent a water quality threat. Many of these sites have been cleaned up in recent years, but some may still exist.

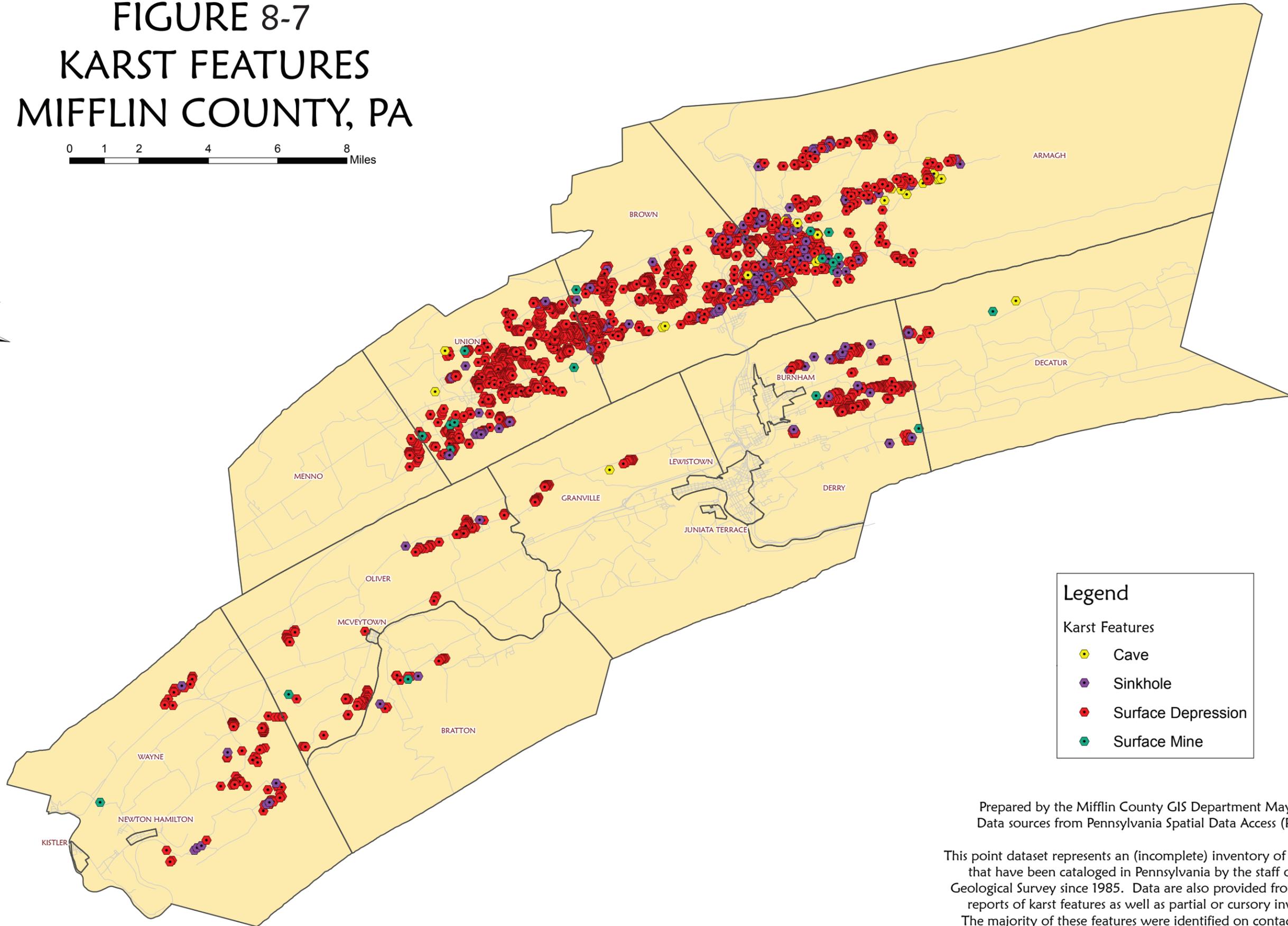
Groundwater contamination is among the most severe risks in this karst environment.

Although karst landforms pose hazardous conditions, they are, in fact, valuable for various reasons including serving as areas for endangered species of flora and fauna, may contain cultural resources (i.e., historic and prehistoric), contain rare minerals or unique landforms, and provide scenic and challenging recreational opportunities.

² Kochanov, W. E., 1999, Sinkholes in Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Geological Survey, 4th ser., Educational Series 11, 33 p.

FIGURE 8-7 KARST FEATURES MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles



Legend

Karst Features

- Cave
- Sinkhole
- Surface Depression
- Surface Mine

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department May, 2012.
Data sources from Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA).

This point dataset represents an (incomplete) inventory of karst features that have been cataloged in Pennsylvania by the staff of the PA Geological Survey since 1985. Data are also provided from incidental reports of karst features as well as partial or cursory inventories. The majority of these features were identified on contact prints of USDA, USGS, and other aerial photography.

NATURAL COMMUNITIES

The Natural Heritage Inventory program for Mifflin County was initiated in the fall of 2004. It is a joint endeavor between Mifflin, Juniata, and Snyder Counties to inventory biologically significant areas within these counties. The Mifflin County Natural Area Inventory report was completed by the Pennsylvania Science Office of The Nature Conservancy in June 2007.

Work included aerial photo interpretation and a low altitude reconnaissance flyover of all three counties as well as ground surveys. The presence and significance of wildlife (plant and animal species) was assessed with particular emphasis given to rare, threatened, and endangered species. Changes in each natural community were noted in comparison to previous surveys, where available. General and site specific conservation management recommendations are offered in the report.

Mifflin County's Natural Heritage Inventory report identifies 66 sites. Each site comprises a core area and a buffer intended to help conserve the species. Implementation of the recommendations is up to the discretion of the landowners, both public and private. However, cooperative efforts to protect the highest quality natural features through the development of site-specific management plans are greatly encouraged. In addition, the inventory recommends that the County use the inventory as it conducts its review of subdivision and land development plans.

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CHAPTER 9

TRANSPORTATION ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

Transportation is a vital service that is critically important to any community and its economy. As such, it is an important element of any comprehensive, long range community and economic development plan. Transportation connects workers to jobs, employers to markets, and consumers to a wide array of services such as retail, health care, education and recreation. When transportation is not properly planned for, the negative effects can include poor safety, increased congestion, inefficiencies in time and fuel, or the increased cost of improvement to a system that has not been maintained. Transportation is a vital service that is critically important to any community and its economy. As such, it is an important element of any comprehensive, long range community and economic development plan. Transportation connects workers to jobs, employers to markets, and consumers to a wide array of services

Transportation has played a prominent role in the growth of the County and the region. Historically and geographically, Lewistown was considered the central point between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, between the anthracite and bituminous coal regions, and therefore central to rail systems and critical to accessing leading markets. Furthermore, Mifflin County has played a significant role in both the state and region's industrial history, specifically in iron ore mining, iron furnaces for production, and clothing and shirt making.

Transportation provides vital infrastructure that connects workers to jobs, employers to markets, and consumers to a wide array of services.

EXISTING ROADWAY NETWORK

STATE AND LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Table 9-1 provides an inventory of roadway miles in Mifflin County by state and local ownership. As shown, roadway miles owned by Townships and Boroughs comprise the largest portion (61.5 percent) of the total roadway network. Local roadway mileage is largely affected by size of the municipality and the level of development within its borders. There is only one County-owned roadway in the county, located in Brown Township.

Table 9-1 Linear Miles of Local and State Highway in Mifflin County, 2010

Municipality	Local Roadway Miles	State Highway Miles	Total Miles
Mifflin County	380.21	237.93	618.14
Armagh Township	41.03	27.29	68.32
Bratton Township	20.48	11.44	31.92
Brown Township	28.03	22.93	50.96
Burnham Borough	10.43	1.78	12.21
Decatur Township	36.11	30.06	66.17
Derry Township	47.84	30.97	78.81
Granville Township	39.22	30.78	70
Juniata Terrace Borough	1.74	0.15	1.89
Kistler Borough	1.85	0	1.85
Lewistown Borough	20.52	8.94	29.46
McVeytown Borough	1.84	0.57	2.41
Menno Township	19.47	16.89	36.36
Newton Hamilton Borough	0.89	1.08	1.97
Oliver Township	32.69	17.24	49.93
Union Township	29.17	19.06	48.23
Wayne Township	48.9	18.75	67.65

Source: PennDOT Type 5 Maps

ROADWAY CLASSIFICATION

Specific roadways vary in the degree to which they provide mobility and access. The functional classification of a roadway depends upon the particular role the roadway segment has in providing mobility or access. The functional classification of highways and roadways is established in the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Highway Design Manual. The classification system is organized into two parts—Urban Area Systems and Rural Area Systems. Each of these systems is further divided into the following roadway classes:

- **Freeways:** These are fully controlled access highways, with no at-grade intersections or driveway connections, and therefore require no traffic control devices such as stop signs and traffic signals. U.S. Route 322 in Mifflin County is a freeway.
- **Arterials:** Arterials support large traffic volumes between major activity centers, such as towns and shopping/employment centers, and between regions, therefore they form the backbone of a regional and statewide roadway network U.S. Routes 22 and 522 and PA Route 655 are arterial highways in Mifflin County.
- **Collectors:** Collectors link local streets with the arterial roadway system. PA 103, Honey Creek Road (SR 1002), Ferguson Valley Road (SR 4013) and Ridge Avenue are collectors in the County.
- **Local Roads:** Local roads serve shorter, local travel needs, primarily providing access to properties. These roads generally have low traffic volumes. They are often, but not always, owned by local municipalities.

Functional roadway classifications for state-owned roads in Mifflin County are shown on Figure 9-1.

BRIDGES

Bridges are an important part of the roadway system in communities with dramatic topography, extensive waterways and grade-separated roadways. There are 185 state-owned bridges longer than 8 feet in length and 49 locally-owned bridges greater than 20 feet in length in the County. Bridges of the minimum lengths noted above are required to be inspected at least every two years. Records are contained in PennDOT's Bridge Management System and each bridge can be reported as:

- **Load Capacity Challenged** (Posted and Closed). Posted and closed bridges negatively impact emergency response, goods movement, and commerce in general. Bridge postings and closings as a percentage of total bridges serve as a measure of bridge performance.
- **Substandard** (Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete). Structurally deficient bridges are structures unable to carry vehicle loads or speeds that would normally be expected for that particular bridge type and location. Functionally obsolete bridges are structures with inadequate width or vertical clearance in comparison with the associated highway system and may represent a "choke point" for traffic.

There are no closed bridges in the County, but 3 are posted with weight limits and 65 others are substandard in comparison to expected traffic patterns.

STATE BRIDGES

At present, there are no closed bridges, state-owned or locally owned, in the county. Eight state bridges are posted for weight. One of these is posted for “one truck at a time,” which is not considered a severe limitation. Table 9-2 shows the condition of the 185 state-owned bridges in the county. Forty-four of these bridges are rated as structurally deficient and 21 are functionally obsolete. The 23.8 percent deficiency rate is slightly worse than statewide average of 19.0 percent.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY (LOCAL) BRIDGES

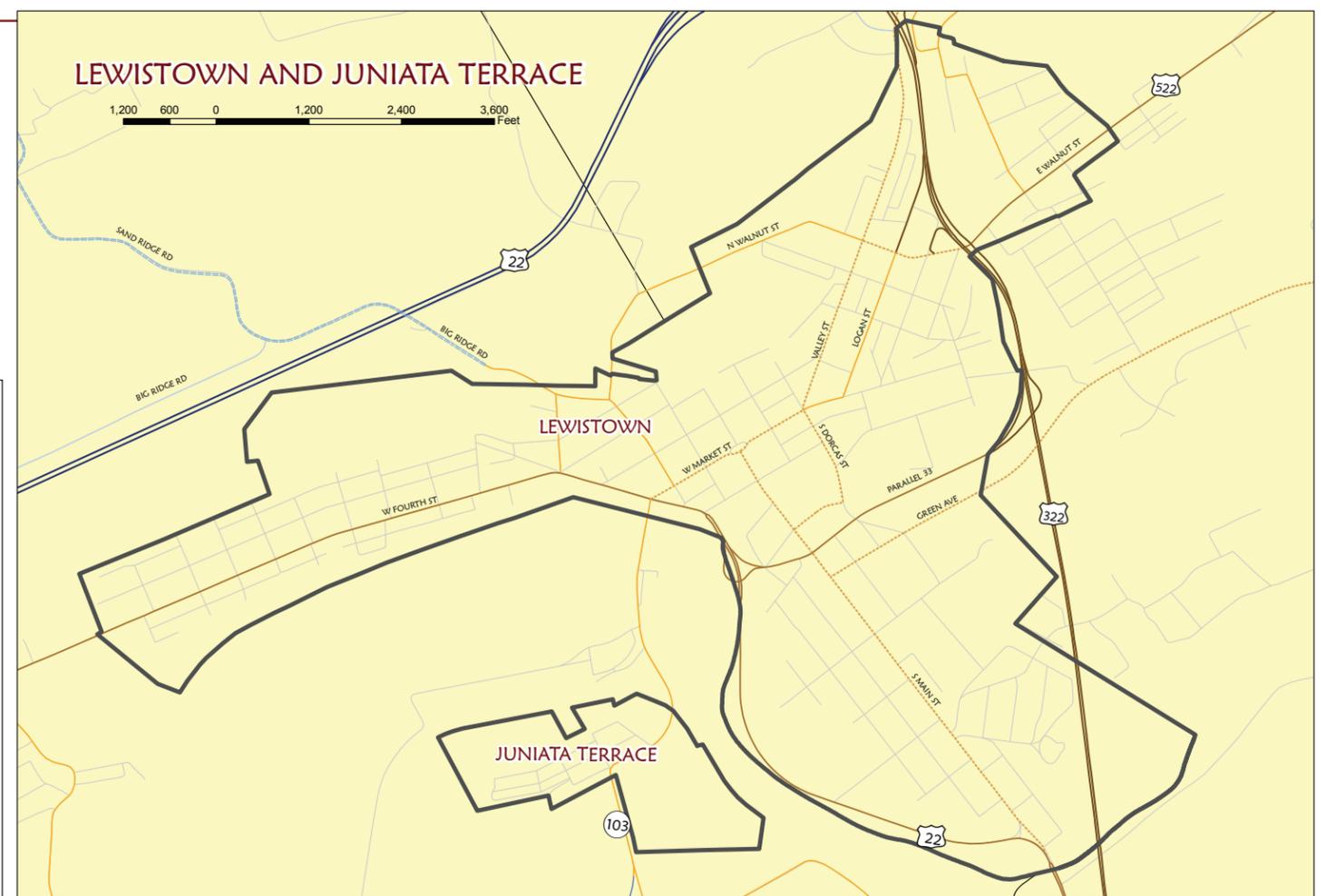
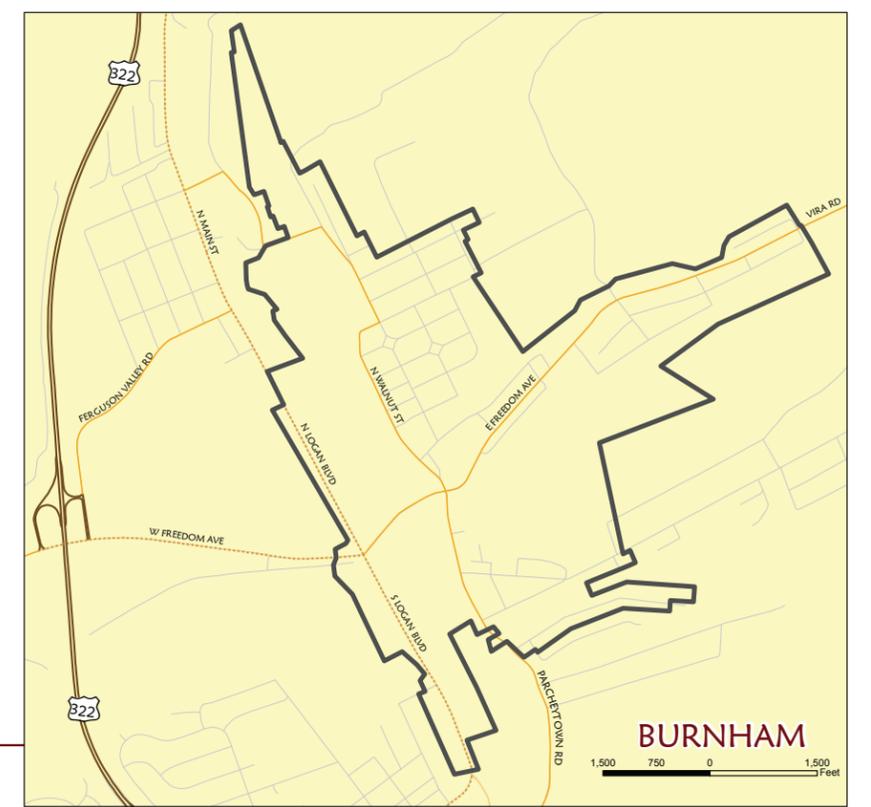
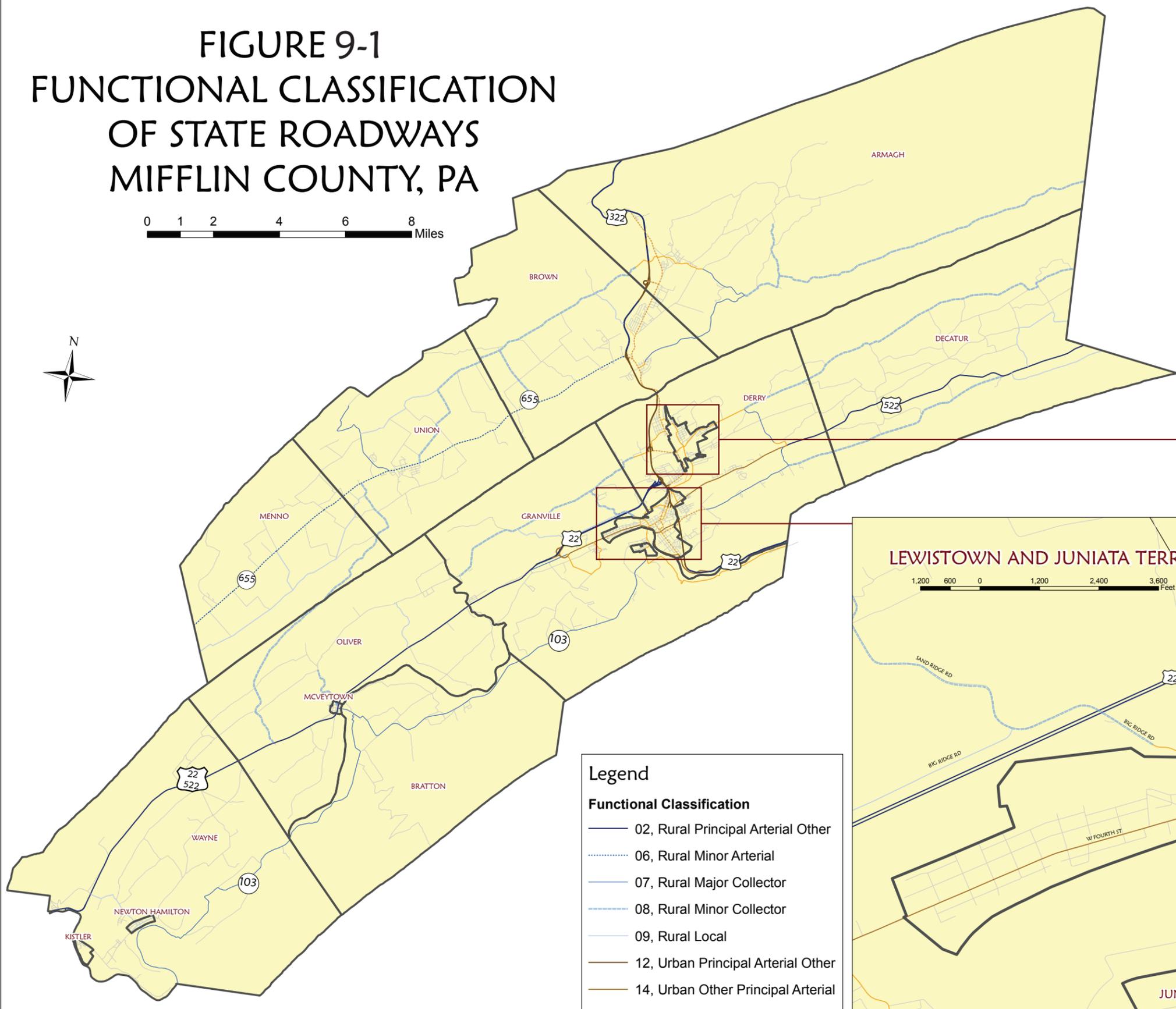
There are no closed locally owned bridges, as stated above. Seven local bridges are posted for weight. Table 9-3 shows the condition of the 49 locally-owned bridges in the county that are greater than 20 feet in length. The condition of smaller bridges is not known, since inspections are not required and not reported to PennDOT’s Bridge Management System.

Table 9-2 State Bridges > 8 feet

Municipality	Total Bridges	Structurally Deficient		Functionally Obsolete		Posted
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Armagh Township	33	7	21.2%	3	9.1%	2
Bratton Township	4	1	25.0%	--		--
Brown Township	20	7	35.0%	1	5.0%	3
Burnham Borough	3	1	33.3%	1	33.3%	1
Decatur Township	15	3	20.0%	1	6.7%	--
Derry Township	31	9	29.0%	2	6.5%	2
Granville Township	18	2	11.1%	4	22.2%	--
Lewistown Borough	11	4	36.4%	4	36.4%	--
Menno Township	4	--	--	1	25.0%	--
Newton Hamilton Borough	2	--	--	1	50.0%	--
Oliver Township	19	5	26.3%	1	5.3%	--
Union Township	7	2	28.6%	1	14.3%	--
Wayne Township	18	3	16.7%	1	5.6%	--
Mifflin County Total	185	44	23.8%	21	11.4%	8

Source: PennDOT Bridge Management System

FIGURE 9-1 FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF STATE ROADWAYS MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Legend

Functional Classification

- 02, Rural Principal Arterial Other
- 06, Rural Minor Arterial
- 07, Rural Major Collector
- 08, Rural Minor Collector
- 09, Rural Local
- 12, Urban Principal Arterial Other
- 14, Urban Other Principal Arterial
- 16, Urban Minor Arterial
- 17, Urban Collector
- 19, Urban Local

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2012.
Data sources from PennDOT and Mifflin County.

Table 9-3 Locally-Owned Bridges > 20 Feet

Municipality	Total Bridges	Structurally Deficient		Functionally Obsolete		Posted
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Armagh Township	5	--	--	1	20.0%	1
Brown Township	7	--	--	5	71.4%	--
Decatur Township	12	1	8.3%	2	16.7%	5
Derry Township	6	--	--	--	--	--
Granville Township	1	--	--	--	--	--
Lewistown Borough	1	--	--	--	--	--
Menno Township	3	--	--	1	33.3%	--
Oliver Township	6	--	--	1	16.7%	--
Union Township	6	1	16.7%	1	16.7%	--
Wayne Township	2	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	1
Total	49	3	6.1%	12	24.5%	7
County-owned	8	0	--	1	12.5%	0

Source: PennDOT Bridge Management System

Table 9-4 County-owned Bridges

Municipality	Feature Carried	Location	Length in Feet	Year Built	Sufficiency Rating
Armagh Township	T-465	800 ft. S. of LR499	40	1915	66
Decatur Township	T-321	700 ft. W. of T-737	33	1915	80
Decatur Township	T-323	900 ft. N. of SR 2004	40	1910	81
Decatur Township	T-385	1200 ft. NE of T-707	107	2000	96
Derry Township	T-315	2400 ft. SE of LR44007	105	1974	63.6
Derry Township	T-416	Main St. Connector	113	1994	82.1
Derry Township	T-480	400 ft. W. of LR44007	92	1973	66.8
Lewistown Borough	Dorcas Street	800 ft. NE of LR 32	253	1975	80.5

Source: PennDOT Bridge Management System

Three local bridges (6.1 percent) are rated as structurally deficient and 12 (24.5 percent) are functionally obsolete. Of the eight county-owned bridges, none is structurally deficient and only the bridge over Treaster Run in Armagh Township is functionally obsolete. Sufficiency ratings vary widely, and refer to a bridge’s ability to meet public needs, based on structural adequacy, serviceability and safety. Bridges with a sufficiency rating less than 80 are eligible for federal rehabilitation funds, while those with a rating less than 50 are eligible for federal replacement funds.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Of the 36 traffic signals in Mifflin County, all are owned and maintained locally, even where they control traffic along state highways.

There is no traffic signal management system to track the age and condition of traffic signals.

There are approximately 36 signalized intersections throughout Mifflin County. Nearly half of the traffic signals, 17, are located within Lewistown Borough. All of the traffic signals are owned and maintained by boroughs and townships, even though they may control traffic on state-owned roadways. Throughout Pennsylvania, nearly three-quarters of all traffic signals control state highways, while in Mifflin County, the share is 86 percent. Despite this, it is the local municipality that is responsible for maintaining and operating traffic signals.

Currently, there is no statewide traffic signal management system to track the age and condition of traffic signals. Many municipalities in Pennsylvania and in Mifflin County do not have the expertise or resources to adequately maintain and operate them. State planning bodies, such as the Transportation Advisory Committee, have advocated for PennDOT to have a more prominent role in the operation of traffic signals across the Commonwealth, particularly where traffic signals are located along highways that traverse municipal boundaries.

TRAFFIC VOLUMES

Average annual daily traffic volumes (AADT) for state and federal roadways in 2010 are illustrated in Figure 9-2. As shown, the largest volumes are found on the urban principal arterials, specifically, U.S. Routes 22, 322, and 522, which connect to the Harrisburg and State College metropolitan areas.

PennDOT uses its extensive database of traffic counts throughout Mifflin County and the Commonwealth to estimate the average number of miles driven per day within various jurisdictions. This number is known as Daily Vehicle Miles of Travel (DVMT). As shown in Table 9-5, the DVMT was just over 1.2 million miles in Mifflin County in 2005 and dropped steadily in recent years to 1.0 million miles in 2010. This drop in DVMT is part of a nationwide response to rising fuel prices in the mid-2000s, which depressed non-essential travel, and the economic recession and recovery, which depressed employment travel, in the latter part of the decade.

In 2010, drivers traveled more than one million miles on roads in Mifflin County – a decrease from 1.2 million miles in 2005.

The decline in DVMT within Mifflin County has been more dramatic than within Pennsylvania as a whole. Figure 9-3 shows the DVMT for both Mifflin County and Pennsylvania indexed to 2005. In addition to nationwide factors, the aging population in the County may be driving significantly less.

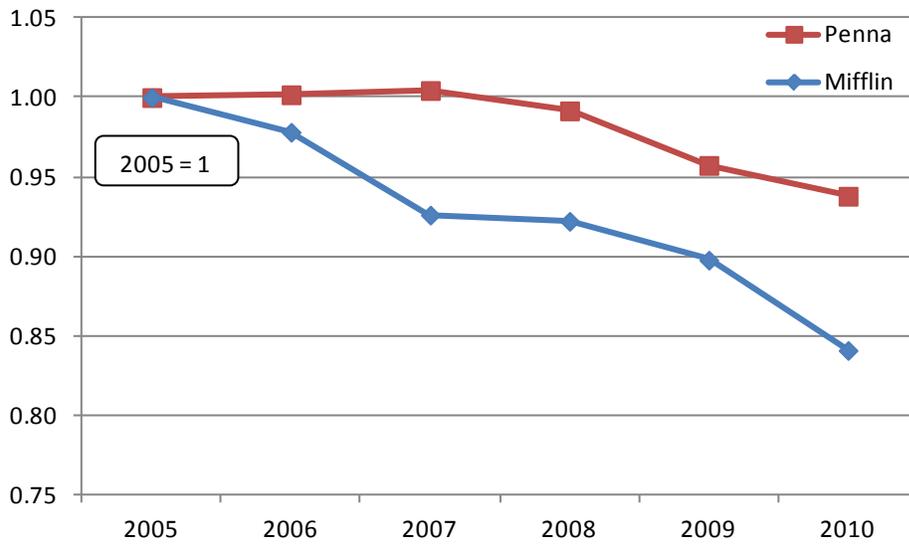
Table 9-5 DVMT by Roadway Ownership in Mifflin County, 2005-2009

Roadway Ownership	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
PennDOT	995,637	967,363	902,317	886,287	864,446	890,601
Other Agencies	99,405	99,405	99,405	99,405	99,405	17,688
Local Municipal	151,065	152,160	152,324	163,471	154,884	139,697
In Mifflin County	1,246,107	1,218,928	1,154,046	1,149,163	1,118,735	1,047,986

Note: The drop in Other Agency DVMT is due to an update in "Other Agency" miles in 2010.

Source: PennDOT Publication 600: *Pennsylvania Highway Statistics*

Figure 9-3 DVMT for Mifflin County and Pennsylvania, Indexed to 2005



Source: PennDOT Publication 600: *Pennsylvania Highway Statistics*

CRASH ANALYSIS

The *Pennsylvania Crash Facts and Statistics* booklet is published annually by the PennDOT Bureau of Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering as a statistical review of reportable motor vehicle crashes in the Commonwealth. The figures are compiled from traffic crash reports submitted to the PennDOT by state, county, municipal, and other law enforcement agencies, as specified in the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code (75 Pa. C.S., Chapter 37, Subchapter C). PennDOT and transportation planning agencies, such as SEDA-COG, review crash patterns to determine whether improvements can be expected to minimize future crash occurrences.

Table 9-6 Vehicular Crashes, 2005-2010

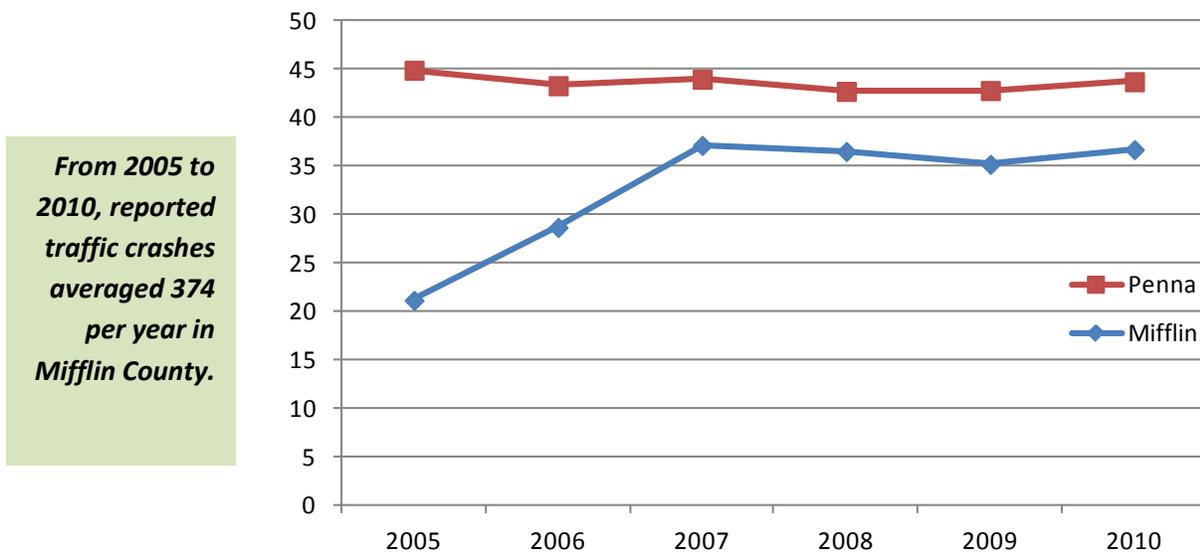
County	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Avg. Annual Percent Change
Mifflin	264	350	429	420	394	385	8.91%
Huntingdon	482	530	482	507	433	373	-4.47%
Juniata	295	243	242	297	249	241	-2.94%
Snyder	459	430	412	433	387	386	-3.26%
Union	381	325	379	367	370	345	-1.44%

Source: PennDOT Publication: *Pennsylvania Crash Facts and Statistics*

A comparison of six-year (2005-2010) crash trends for Mifflin County and surrounding rural counties is presented in Table 9-6; Centre County was excluded as an urban county. During this period, total crashes per year averaged 374 in Mifflin County and resulted in a net increase of 8.9 percent. In contrast, the neighboring counties all experienced a small decrease in their average annual crash totals.

Simply comparing the number of crashes doesn't provide a complete picture, because the number of crashes is influenced by the total amount of travel within a jurisdiction. Figure 9-4 shows the number of crashes per 100,000 miles of DVMT. When viewed this way, one can observe that Mifflin County's crash rate increased from 2005 to 2007, but has since leveled off, and has continually been less than the statewide rate.

Figure 9-4 Crashes per 100,000 DVMT, 2005-2010

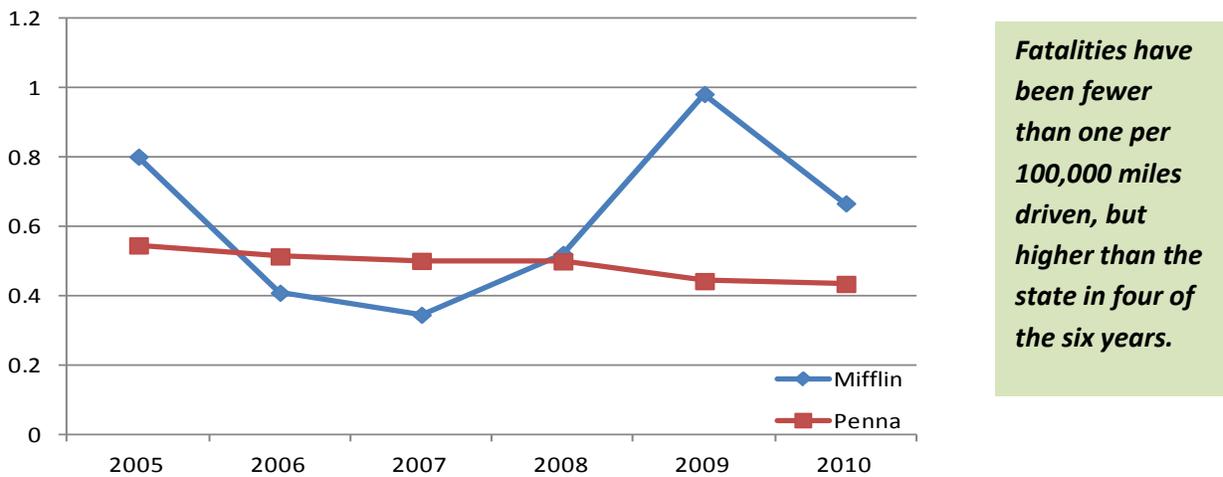


Sources: PennDOT, *Pennsylvania Crash Facts and Statistics*, PennDOT Publication 600: *Pennsylvania Highway Statistics*

As presented in Table 9-7, Mifflin County experienced the third highest number of reportable crashes and the second highest crash rate per 100,000 DVMT in the region in 2010. It had the fewest fatal crashes, 7, tied with Union County and the second lowest injury crashes. The most common crash type in Mifflin County in 2010 involved property damage only.

The number of fatalities occurring as a part of vehicular crashes in Mifflin County has varied over the six-year period from 2005-2010, which is often the case in small geographic areas. In two of the previous six years, the number of fatalities per 100,000 miles of DVMT in Mifflin County has been less than the statewide average, while in the other four years it has been higher, as shown in Figure 9-5.

Figure 9-5 Fatalities per 100,000 DVMT, 2005-2010



Fatalities have been fewer than one per 100,000 miles driven, but higher than the state in four of the six years.

Sources: PennDOT, *Pennsylvania Crash Facts and Statistics*, PennDOT Publication 600: *Pennsylvania Highway Statistics*

Table 9-7 Vehicular Crashes by Crash Type, 2010

Location	Population	Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Only Crashes	Total Crashes	Crashes per 100,000 DVMT
Pennsylvania	12,632,780	1,208	62,666	51,323	115,197	43.7
Mifflin	45,974	7	182	196	385	36.7
Centre	146,656	11	621	576	1,208	33.1
Huntingdon	45,666	10	186	177	373	32.4
Juniata	22,967	8	112	121	241	38.2
Snyder	38,586	8	203	175	386	35.0
Union	43,309	7	192	146	345	24.6

Source: PennDOT Publication: *Pennsylvania Crash Facts and Statistics*

FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS

Chapter 449 of the Pennsylvania Code, established by the Liquid Fuels Tax Act of 1931, authorizes a permanent allocation of a portion of the liquid fuels and oil company franchise tax proceeds to counties and municipalities for their maintenance and construction of locally owned roads, streets and bridges. Liquid fuels funding to counties is distributed to each county based on its share of gasoline consumption relative to state consumption. The allocation to municipalities is based upon a specific formula that accounts for the total population and number of local highway miles in each municipality. Additional funding was provided by Act 44 of 2007.

Mifflin County's liquid fuels allocation is used for the County's two roads, nine bridges (which includes one walking bridge), the bridge inspection program for bridges over 20 feet and for municipal roads and bridges based on an allocation system. Municipalities submit funding requests for projects, which must meet the guidelines of the Liquid Fuels Program. Each request must be approved by the County Commissioners and PennDOT. If a municipality cannot spend its Liquid Fuels allocation, it must submit a request to encumber or carry over the funds into future years. The County balance not assigned to municipalities can also be carried over.

Currently, Mifflin County sub-allocates its share of liquid fuels tax funds to its municipalities based on the typical population and road miles formula system. The results of this system are clear in the four-year history of Liquid Fuel Tax allocations to Mifflin County and its municipalities, shown in Table 9-8. The municipalities with increasing population and/or road miles receive increasing allocations, while revenues to the others stay stable or decline. Generally, this means that the townships' allocations have been increasing, while the boroughs' allocations have decreased.

In many rural municipalities, annual transportation maintenance and construction expenditures consistently exceed liquid fuel tax revenues.

Other allocation methods are permitted and could be considered by Mifflin County if the current system is considered inequitable by municipalities. For example, Lycoming County's competitive allocation method distributes liquid fuels tax funds based on various criteria such as traffic counts, crash statistics, potential impact on economic development, impact on emergency services, percent of cost the county would be funding, whether or not the project is included on PennDOT's Twelve Year Program, and whether or not the municipality has received funding in the past.

Table 9-8 Municipal Liquid Fuels Receipts, 2009-2012

	2009	2010	2011	2012	4-year change
Mifflin County	\$1,364,549	\$1,313,270	\$1,343,078	\$1,367,834	0%
Armagh Township	\$131,328	\$126,144	\$129,115	\$129,970	-1%
Bratton Township	\$52,025	\$49,959	\$51,129	\$52,981	2%
Brown Township	\$111,043	\$107,486	\$110,029	\$114,513	3%
Burnham Borough	\$46,859	\$45,034	\$46,111	\$45,533	-3%
Decatur Township	\$120,024	\$115,263	\$117,550	\$121,532	1%
Derry Township	\$201,316	\$193,408	\$197,510	\$201,852	0%
Granville Township	\$140,652	\$136,016	\$139,234	\$143,755	2%
Juniata Terrace Borough	\$10,405	\$10,001	\$10,241	\$10,871	4%
Kistler Borough	\$8,592	\$8,256	\$8,452	\$8,270	-4%
Lewistown Borough	\$162,793	\$156,508	\$160,288	\$153,174	-6%
McVeytown Borough	\$9,186	\$8,700	\$8,973	\$8,282	-10%
Menno Township	\$66,035	\$63,611	\$65,103	\$67,987	3%
Newton Hamilton Borough	\$5,520	\$5,306	\$5,434	\$4,634	-16%
Oliver Township	\$75,636	\$72,642	\$74,348	\$76,663	1%
Union Township	\$104,748	\$101,265	\$103,479	\$107,287	2%
Wayne Township	\$118,386	\$113,671	\$116,082	\$120,529	2%

Source: PennDOT Bureau of Municipal Services, Municipal Liquid Fuels Allocations Report

Table 9-9 Mifflin County Liquid Fuels Receipts, 2007-2011

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Liquid Fuels	\$174,491	\$192,026	\$146,143	\$167,573	\$207,893
Act 44			\$18,255	\$18,100	\$18,255

Source: PennDOT Bureau of Municipal Services

ACT 89 OF 2013

On Nov. 25, 2013, Governor Tom Corbett signed into law House Bill 1060, Pennsylvania’s most comprehensive piece of state transportation legislation in decades. This legislation will invest an additional \$2.3 to \$2.4 billion into transportation by the fifth year of the plan. Partial funding for the new transportation package is being derived from the elimination of the flat 12-cent gas tax and modernizing an outdated transportation financing structure through the uncapping of the wholesale, Oil Company Franchise Tax.

Act 89 will provide more money for the county and municipalities through liquid fuels allocation for roads and bridges. Additionally, if the county were to impose the optional \$5 fee for registrations it is estimated the County could generate \$234,165 a year (based on 2012 registrations).

RAIL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES

PASSENGER RAIL

The most common use of Amtrak's service is for longer trips to major cities, including Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York.

Amtrak provides passenger rail service from Lewistown to points east and west along the Keystone corridor between New York and Chicago. One eastbound and one westbound train, the Pennsylvanian, depart the Lewistown stations on a daily basis. A schedule for these train connections at Lewistown is provided in Table 9-10.

The railroad alignment through Lewistown follows the Juniata River. The station is located on the south side of the river in Granville Township, less than a mile from the Lewistown business district. The station is a large, historic building with one 200' low-level platform and space for waiting passengers. Parking for approximately 20 vehicles is situated in front of the building. Ownership and maintenance of these facilities is shared. The station and parking facilities are owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society (PRTHS), while the passenger platform is owned by Norfolk Southern. Responsibility for maintenance and upkeep of these facilities, however, is vested entirely with Amtrak and PRTHS.

Table 9-11 presents summary data for the most popular trip origin-destination combinations for the Lewistown station. As expected, the most popular stations of origin and destination for trips along the Keystone West corridor are the larger cities served by the Pennsylvanian, including Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York.

Table 9-11 clearly illustrates that the most common use of the service is for longer trips rather than for travel within the corridor. This is likely due to the fact that only one daily round trip is available, which is not conducive to attracting commuters or other short-distance travelers.

Total Amtrak ridership (boardings) from the Lewistown station was showing a declining trend from 2007 to 2011 though boardings began rising in 2012, as shown in Table 9-12. The five year trend form 2009 to 2013 showed a 10.0% decrease but a 9.4% increase from 2012 to 2013.

Table 9-10 Amtrak's Route Schedule and Services from Lewistown

Connection to Points West (Altoona-Johnstown-Pittsburgh)	Train Name	Connection to Points East (Harrisburg-Phila-New York)
<i>Pennsylvanian</i>	<i>Pennsylvanian</i>	
43	Train Number	42
Daily	Days of Operation	Daily
3:46 PM	Service Time	11:11 AM

Note: Schedules are subject to change. For current schedule, visit www.amtrak.com.

Source: Amtrak Online. <http://www.amtrak.com>. April 3, 2012.

Table 9-11 Most Popular Destinations from and Origins to the Lewistown Amtrak Station, FY 2010

Destinations	FY 2010 Trips		Origins	FY 2010 Trips	
Philadelphia	1,427	32.2%	New York	1,416	29.5%
New York	1,173	26.5%	Philadelphia	1,325	27.6%
Pittsburgh	919	20.7%	Pittsburgh	908	18.9%
Lancaster	198	4.5%	Lancaster	222	4.6%
Harrisburg	172	3.9%	Johnstown	181	3.8%

Source: Amtrak

Table 9-12 Amtrak’s Pennsylvania Ridership (Boardings), 2009-13

Location	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009-13
Lewistown	11,005	10,674	10,118	9,238	8,200	8,315	9,102	-10.0%

Source: Amtrak Government Affairs Fact Sheets

A representative of the Pennsylvania Statewide Independent Living Council, a Governor Appointed Disability Rights Leadership Organization, noted that the Lewistown station is not fully accessible. Specifically, riders must use stairs to move from the low-level platform to the train and the route from the parking lot to the platform has additional challenges. Improvements to address accessibility would be costly but should be considered in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

RAIL FREIGHT

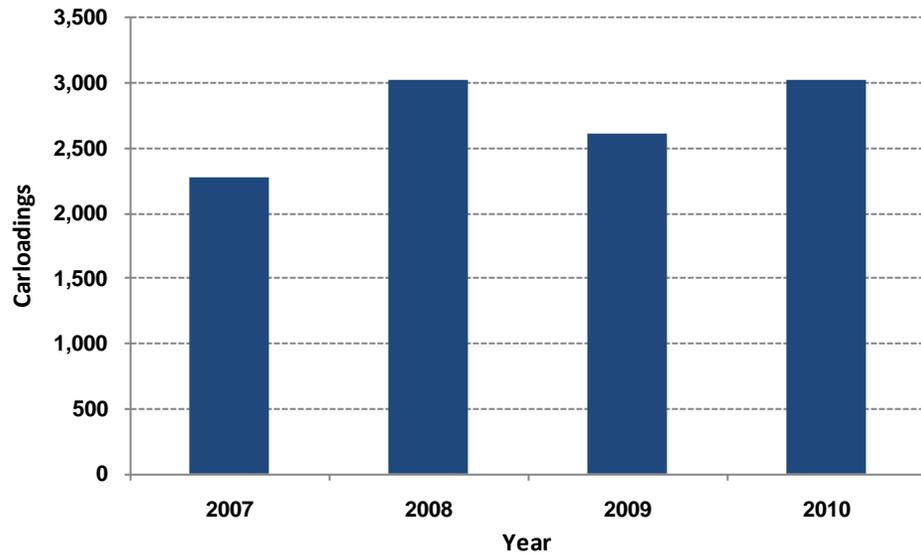
The East West Mainline of Norfolk Southern (NS) traverses Mifflin County. NS provides rail service from the Lewistown Yard in Granville Township to its mainline; customers rely on a short-line operator, Susquehanna Union Railroad Company (SURC) contracted locally by the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority (JRA), owner of the Lewistown Yard, for switching and transferring cars from their sites to the yard. Additional freight lines or other improvements to the existing Norfolk Southern service at Lewistown are not anticipated in the near future.

The JRA is a multi-county municipal authority comprised of nine member counties. Each county is represented on the governing board by two individuals; one is a rail shipper. In addition to the Lewistown Yard, the JRA owns about 200 miles of rail lines within its service territory. The number of railcar loads on the system’s short-lines has increased to an estimated 3,000 cars in 2010 (Figure 9-6).

The East West Mainline of Norfolk Southern (NS) traverses Mifflin County, but the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority moves rail cars between local industries and the NS mainline.

The JRA, in collaboration with the county industrial development entities, has identified parcels for future rail service. These sites are adjacent or close to the existing rail infrastructure. The JRA relies on the county representatives to discuss opportunities for future development.

Figure 9-6 Juniata Valley Railroad - Total Carloadings, 2007-10



Source: SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority

RAILROAD GRADE CROSSINGS

Railroad crossings are a safety concern at three locations in Lewistown.

In 2011, SEDA-COG performed a study of the Maitland Branch’s at-grade crossing of limited access U.S. 322 through the borough. The crossing has a history of crash activity, with a greater need for queue protection as waiting motorists get rear-ended by approaching vehicles. The study concluded that the crossing may merit some application of advance driver warning through the use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

The County has performed an inventory of railroad crossings in the Lewistown area having minimal safety facilities. The major concerns include improvements to the following grade crossings located in the Borough of Lewistown:

1. U.S. 322, which has a warning light but no gates. An upgrade is in the planning stages.
2. Entrance ramp to U.S. 322 off of Walnut Street which has warning lights but no gates.
3. Under U.S. 322 Walnut Street, which has warning lights but no gates.

4. The street-running track along Chestnut Street.
5. Signals for the recently rebuilt Depot Street crossing.
6. Signals for the Burnham branch from Lewistown through Yeagertown to Derry Township, including:
 - South Pine Street
 - Walnut St (Us 522)
 - SR 322 Ramp
 - Mill Rd (SR 2005)
 - Kich Pike
 - Derry Twp Park
 - Freedom Ave (SR2002)
 - Mill St, Yeagertown
 - N Derry St (T403), Derry Twp

The main line crossing at Round House Road is a location for future evaluation.

A pedestrian opportunity related to rail includes the railroad bridge over the Juniata River from Lewistown Borough into Granville Township. The JRA has been approached concerning the possibility of adding a cantilevered lane on the rail bridge to facilitate movement of pedestrians. The link would provide a connection to the proposed Fort Granville Heritage Park.

TRANSIT SERVICES

Historically, the development of area trolley and bus services was a natural outgrowth linking the region's job opportunities with the residences of employees. At one point, there were over 50 buses covering up to 6,000 miles a day in the county. Today, taxi and other public transit services are inefficient and lack a centralized service center. The lack of a centralized transportation center poses several problems, such as passenger safety deficiencies and coordination between modes of transportation (i.e., Amtrak and bus services).

INTERCITY BUS SERVICE

Intercity bus service is provided by Fullington Trailways for both passenger and package shipments. Lewistown is an intermediate stop for the bus service, which operates along U.S. Route 322 from Harrisburg to State College, Altoona, Pittsburgh, and points west. Fullington provides three inbound and outbound routes on weekdays, including service to State College and Harrisburg.

Fullington’s State College to Harrisburg “Early Morning Bus” runs along U.S. 322 with stops in Lewistown, Mifflintown and Thompsettown. The timing of the stops is conducive to commuter service, and was indicated as an important feature in the Park and Ride study for Juniata County recently conducted by PennDOT.

Fullington Trailways operates from Harrisburg to State College, Altoona, Pittsburgh, and points west, providing three inbound and four outbound routes on weekdays.

Fullington Trailways uses the Laskaris Restaurant at 6 West Market Street as its terminal facility in Lewistown. This location is approximately ¾-mile from the Amtrak station, or a walking time of about 15 minutes.

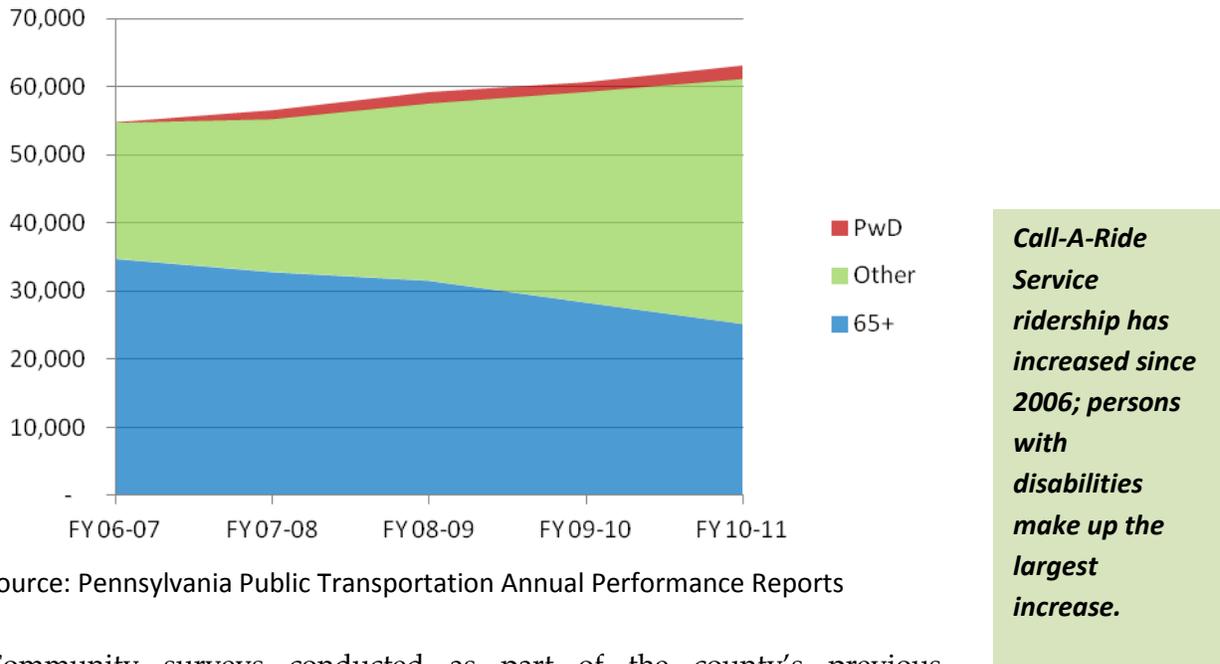
Greyhound complements Fullington’s service with two daily round trips from Lewistown as part of its Harrisburg-State College-Pittsburgh service. MegaBus also provides variable levels of inter-city bus service between State College and Harrisburg but does not stop in Mifflin County.

PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE

The Mifflin-Juniata Agency on Aging provides rural transit services, known as Call-A-Ride Service (CARS), throughout the two-county area. The majority of patrons are persons aged 65 and older requesting trips to local senior centers, shopping facilities, and medical facilities. The service is funded by various sources including the Shared-Ride Program, funded by the Pennsylvania Lottery, Medical Assistance, program income, and county funds.

As Figure 9-7 and Table 9-13 show, overall ridership on CARS has been steadily increasing over the past five years. However, a decreasing share of riders is seniors riding under the Shared Ride program funded by the lottery. The Persons with Disabilities (PwD) program has shown a strong increase, from its initial ridership of only 78 in FY 06-07 to almost 2,000 in FY 10-12. The “Other” category has also shown significant increase. This category includes a number of different programs, but is mostly made up of recipients of medical assistance riding under the Medical Assistance Transportation Program, or MATP. The MATP program provides transportation to medical appointments for Medical Assistance recipients who do not have transportation available to them.

Figure 9-7 CARS ridership, FY 2006-07 to FY 2010-11



Source: Pennsylvania Public Transportation Annual Performance Reports

Community surveys conducted as part of the county’s previous comprehensive plan (2000) found that 74 percent of survey respondents rated the county’s existing public transportation service as either “fair” or “poor.” As an outgrowth of that effort, a number of county groups began meeting under the auspices of the Mifflin County United Way to explore ways of improving public transportation service in the county. A subsequent study conducted in 2002 under the direction of the County in collaboration with the United Way examined the potential for improved transit service in the county and proposed a recommended service plan that included a “base service” that would operate within the Lewistown area on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, and a “Belleville Service” that would operate on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Future service that was found to warrant consideration included:

- Student-oriented services to and from the YMCA and other after-school programs for “latchkey” children;
- Once-a-week service to and from shopping opportunities in the State College area;
- “Work Trip” transit routes which would provide service to major employment clusters at key shift-change times (e.g., at 7:00AM and at 3:00PM);
- Coordination with Amtrak service at the train station.

Table 9-13 CARS ridership, FY 2006-07 to FY 2010-11

	FY 06-07	FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 09-10	FY 10-11	5-Year Change
Seniors 65+	34,813	32,865	31,585	28,383	25,253	-27%
PwD	78	1,316	1,660	1,425	1,966	2421%
Other	19,942	22,421	26,009	30,900	35,928	80%
Total	54,833	56,602	59,254	60,708	63,147	15%

Source: Pennsylvania Public Transportation Annual Performance Reports

From State College, the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) facilitates the formation of vanpools and carpools through its CATA Commute Program. From the Lewistown area, CATA currently has seven vanpools operating, some of which are destined for downtown State College, while others go to other employers such as the Rockview State Correctional Institution. The seven vans represent a total of 78 workers. Average monthly fees to travel from Lewistown to State College are approximately \$85, which can vary, based on the number of people participating in the program. CATA provides the van and maintenance support while participants can volunteer to serve as a driver, store the vehicle, keep it clean, and bring it in to CATA for periodic maintenance in exchange for free transportation. The vanpool service has been available to Mifflin County commuters since October 2007.

Since 1999, CATA has facilitated the formation of carpools through its web-based service. Participants must identify their location, work hours, and degree of flexibility in meeting other riders (e.g., distance willing to travel, etc.) with similar parameters and flexibility. CATA currently has ten carpool participants in three carpools in its program. There are a total of 225 registered participants from Mifflin County participating in the program.

Each of Pennsylvania’s Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs) is required to create a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan¹. This plan is intended to coordinate human service transportation services—those transit services that serve seniors, medical assistance recipients, persons with disabilities and other members of the population that may have difficulty obtaining transportation. SEDA-COG complied with this requirement by issuing the 2008 Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan. This plan identifies

¹ MPOs and RPOs are regional transportation policy-making organizations that guide the expenditures of state and federal funds for transportation. Federal funding for transportation projects and programs are channeled through this planning process. For transportation planning purposes, Mifflin County is part of the SEDA-COG Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

the numerous gaps in service that currently exist and recommends strategies and activities to address those gaps.

During 2008 and 2009, the Pennsylvania Departments of Transportation, Public Welfare, Aging, and the Office of the Budget undertook a detailed study on the Human Service Transportation system in Pennsylvania, of which the Call-A-Ride Service is a part. That study recognized the increased need for public transportation services for residents that cannot or do not drive. This study recommended ways to increase the efficiency of providing trips. The report's chief recommendation was the consolidation into regional multi-county transit systems that could offer better service at greater efficiencies.

Additionally, Scotty (or Scotty's) Taxi in Lewistown is a private company offering a variety of transportation services complementing those offered by CARS.

The 2011 Quality of Life Survey found that the majority of residents perceive local and countywide public transportation services as fair to poor. Local countywide bus service was rated by respondents as the most important of the 11 transportation activities listed to maintain the quality of life in the county, even though highway improvements were rated a higher priority for the next five years.

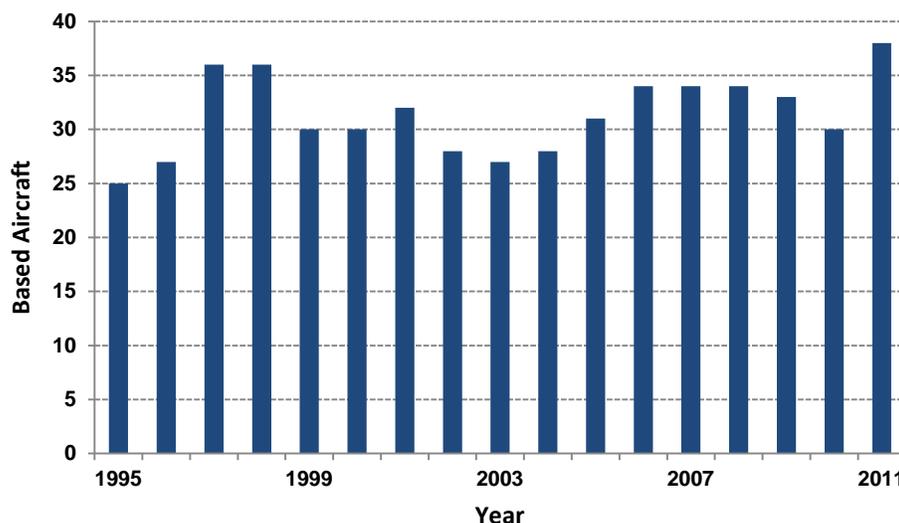
AVIATION

Aviation services are provided by the Mifflin County Airport, a 159-acre facility located in Brown Township, where it has been operating since its opening in 1966. The airport is located approximately two miles from U.S. Route 322 and approximately 30 miles south of Interstate 80. Both the both the airport and the Lewistown region are in close proximity to various scheduled service aviation facilities such as Pittsburgh International, Philadelphia International, and Baltimore/Washington International. State College's University Park Airport and the Harrisburg International Airport are located 35 miles north, and 70 miles south, respectively.

PennDOT's Bureau of Aviation has classified the airport as a general aviation airport. It is also listed by the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) as a General Aviation airport. The airport has 38 based aircraft, including 36 single engine and one multi-engine aircraft, and one glider. It experiences approximately 14,400 annual operations. The airport's lone runway, Runway 06/24, measures 5,001 feet long by 75 feet wide, and is outfitted with medium intensity runway lighting (MIRL).

The most common activity at Mifflin County Airport is recreational flying, including soaring, skydiving, and gyrocopter activity.

Figure 9-8 Mifflin County Airport-Based Aircraft, 1995-2011



Source: Mifflin County Airport Master Plan

The runway is grooved asphalt and is in excellent condition.

Mifflin County Airport serves the general aviation needs of the local community and surrounding region. The airport-run fixed base operator offers a full range of services for local and transient pilots. These include fueling, aircraft parking and storage, rentals, skydiving, pilot supplies, and courtesy transportation. The operator also maintains a general aviation terminal with a pilots’ lounge.

The most common activity at Mifflin County Airport is recreational flying. The airport is nationally recognized for soaring activity at Ridge Runner Soaring, and is becoming renowned for skydiving, served by the FBO and Happy Valley Skydiving, and gyrocopter activity. Other activities include corporate flights and seasonal activities such as agricultural spraying, utility inspections, search and rescue, medical flights, aerial photography, and operations by the Civil Air Patrol.

The airport itself is owned, operated and sponsored by the Mifflin County Airport Authority. One of the main sources of revenue includes the rental of T-hangars and hangar space. The leases from the tenants provide a steady revenue source and contribute to the airport’s economic vitality. The airport has two corporate open-bay hangars, as well as three, 10-unit T-hangars, all of which are in good condition.

The economic impact of the Mifflin County Airport was analyzed in the PennDOT Bureau of Aviation’s technical report, *The Economic Impact of Aviation in Pennsylvania* (2011). The report noted that the Mifflin County

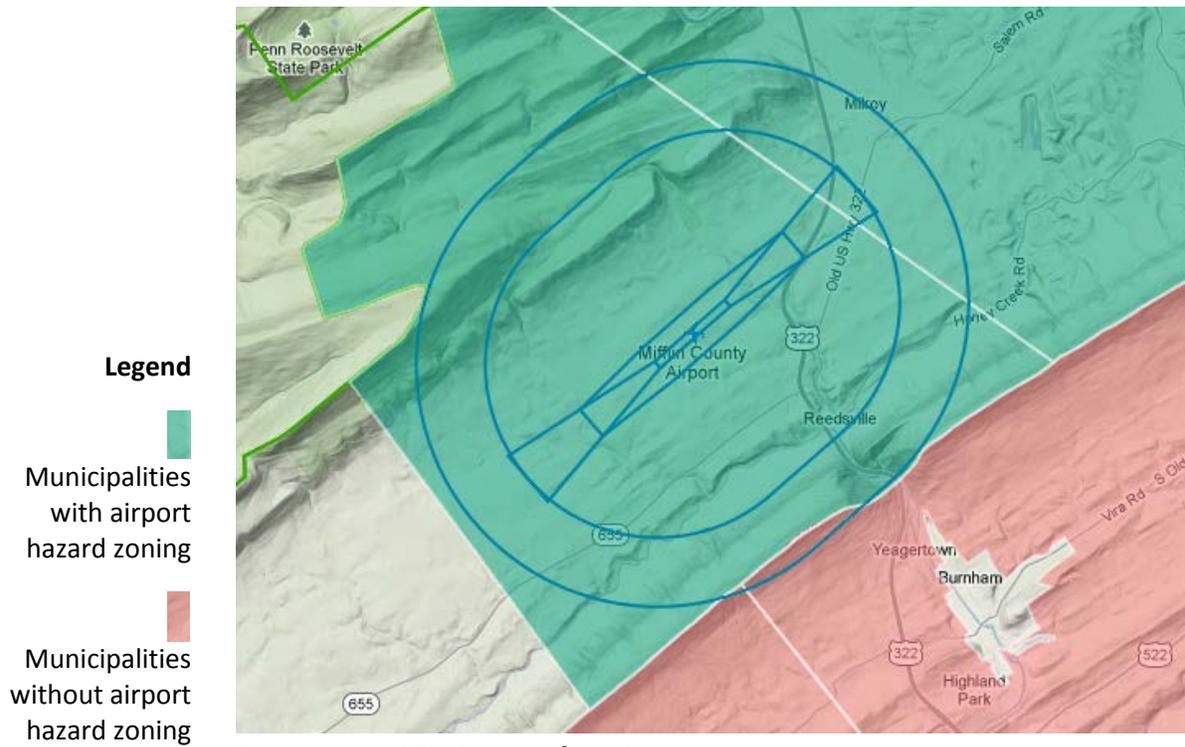
Airport had a total economic impact of \$1.3 million. Total full-time employment related to airport tenants and general aviation visitors, including secondary impacts, was estimated at 11 persons, with a total annual payroll of approximately \$287,000 associated with these jobs. The airport authority continues to strive to increase the airport's economic impact by hosting recreational aviation events that bring tourists to the area for events ranging from several hours to several days.

For example, the National & Regional Soaring Contest is held there each spring, involving 50 contestants and attracting numerous attendees from the region and beyond. Other aviation events include monthly fly-in breakfasts hosted by the local Experimental Aircraft Association chapter, Wycliffe Bible Translators Aviation Community events, and Young Eagles events. Non-aviation events held at the airport include the Boy Scout Camporee, held each fall.

Land uses at the airport and its immediate surroundings are governed by the Brown Township Zoning Ordinance. The township also has an "Airport District Zoning-Height Ordinance," the intent of which is to prevent the creation or establishment of structures, vegetation or other development that could endanger aircraft landing, taking off, or maneuvering over the airport. This area of typically aircraft activity, shown in Figure 9-9, extends into Armagh Township, which also has airport hazard provisions, as well as into Derry and Granville Townships. Derry and Granville Townships do not have such provisions. Existing steep slope protection provisions may in fact limit development in similar ways. These provisions, and any other that may have the desired effect of airport hazard protection, should be reviewed and additional provisions amended into the ordinances, if needed.

The Mifflin County Airport Authority is developing an Airport Master Plan, which covers a 20-year planning horizon, with its consulting team and PennDOT's Bureau of Aviation. The purpose of the master plan is to guide maintenance of the airport and appropriate development in order to maintain safe and efficient operations.

Figure 9-9 Airport Hazard Zone for the Mifflin County Airport



Principal subjects covered within the master plan include the following:

- Inventory of existing conditions
- Forecasts of future aircraft and vehicle traffic
- Analysis of requirements needed to accommodate forecasts
- Alternative development concepts to meet requirements
- Environmental considerations
- Development plan documents
- Financial analysis

The master plan updates the airport's current Action Plan, which was developed in 2002 and is expected to be complete in 2014.

ISSUES AND LOCATIONS OF CONCERN

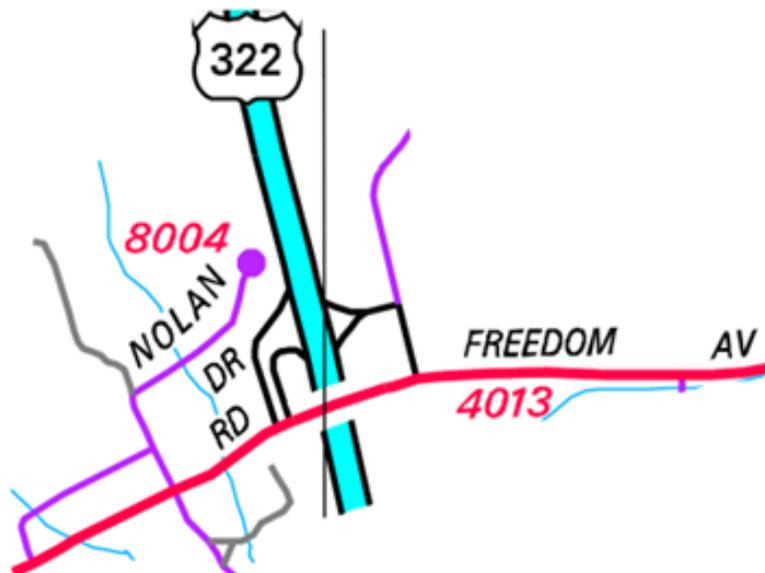
The area centered on the interchange of US 322 with SR 4013/Ferguson Valley Road has been the subject of increased land development speculation. Chief among these include the development of Derry Heights, which includes a 10-screen multiplex movie theater, restaurant, and 120-room hotel at the intersection of Ferguson Valley Road and Freedom Avenue. Others include a proposed waterpark. As this area develops, there will be a need for greater traffic control. An August 2009 Traffic Impact Study for the Derry Heights development proposed several measures, including a traffic signal at Ferguson Valley Road and Freedom Avenue, and a flashing beacon and four-way stop control at the intersection of Ferguson Valley Road and the US 322 westbound ramp. For the interchange itself, the acceleration/deceleration lanes do not meet current AASHTO standards. If traffic control is not adequately addressed in the interchange area, capacity and safety on US 322 will ultimately become affected.

In addition, there have been long-standing concerns with acceleration/entrance and deceleration/exit lanes of other interchanges along US 322 in the county. For example, after a winding acceleration lane, the merge area from Charles Street (Business 22/SR 3002) to westbound US 322 is less than 300 feet. Furthermore, the distance between the Charles Street interchange and the Walnut Street (US 522) interchange is very small; approximately 1,000 feet from the end of the westbound acceleration/entrance lane to the beginning of the deceleration/exit lane. A third lane between these two interchanges, if feasible, would provide an extended merge area that could be used by entering and exiting traffic.

SPECIAL STUDIES

The Mifflin County Planning and Development Department commissioned several concurrent planning studies as part of the update to the county comprehensive plan. Major findings of each study are highlighted below. Full reports are provided in Appendix C.

Figure 9-10 Interchange of US 322 with SR 4013/ Ferguson Valley Road



Source: PennDOT Type 10 General Highway Map

DOWNTOWN LEWISTOWN PARKING ASSESSMENT

Based on weekday and weekend counts of parking occupancy conducted in the study area, downtown Lewistown has an ample supply of on-street and off-street parking. The consultant performed occupancy counts of on-street parking along the following streets:

- Brown Street between Third and Water Streets
- Chestnut Street between Dorcas and Depot Streets
- Dorcas Street between Water and Third Streets
- Grand Street between Third and Market Streets
- Main Street between Third and Water Streets
- Market Street between US 22 and Dorcas Streets
- Third Street between US 22 and Valley Streets
- Water Street between US 22 and Dorcas Streets
- Wayne Street between Third and Water Streets
- Valley Street between Dorcas and Third Streets

Downtown Lewistown has an ample supply of on-street and off-street parking.

The consultant team also performed counts within Monument Square, and two off-street surface lots: the Upper Lot, a 157-space lot off of Third Street behind Bon-Ton; and the Lower Lot, a divided, metered lot at the corner of Water Street and Dorcas Street behind Penn State and the South Hills Business Center.

Reviewers noted that the weekday count was conducted on a Friday (March 23) when program offerings and enrollments at Penn State and South Hills Business Center are markedly lower. In response, the consultant projected additional vehicles in the Lower Lot West from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. based on student enrollment. Adding these additional vehicles to the analysis shows the Lower Lot operating near capacity throughout the day and averaging above the 85 percent threshold. Assuming no imbalance in weekday parking activity in downtown, other parking locations have capacity to absorb the overflow.

ROADWAY SAFETY AUDIT OF US 522 NORTH AND US 522/22 SOUTH

A review of the US 522 corridor through the county revealed that the most common crash type on the corridor was “hit fixed objects,” followed by rear end crashes and angle collisions. This is indicative of the types of features along the roadway, including poor access management (uncontrolled access), concrete drainage structures, substandard guiderail, and minor approaches that intersect the roadway at acute angles. Many of the deficiencies observed along the corridor are eligible for improvement through PennDOT’s Highway Safety Improvement Program, or HSIP. The

overall purpose of the HSIP Program is to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on state roads through the implementation of low to medium cost highway safety improvements.

During 2012, PennDOT District 9-0 administered a corridor study of U.S. 22 between Mount Union in Huntingdon County and Duncansville in Blair County. The goal of the study was to establish a long-term vision for the corridor and identify a list of prioritized, low-cost safety and mobility improvements. As the study limits ended at the Mifflin County border, the study did not identify any specific improvement needs within the county.

INTERSECTION ANALYSES

Congestion and delay were raised as concerns for the intersection of **Walnut and Valley Streets**. The intersection was found to operate at acceptable levels of service under existing conditions and as projected in forecasted (2037) years. Near-term recommendations include installing a semi-actuated traffic controller and ADA-complaint pedestrian accommodation. An upgraded signal should then be coordinated with other signals along Valley Street to enable a smoother flow of traffic. Improvements would be eligible to be funded through PennDOT's Automated Red Light Enforcement Funding Program.

Congestion, delay and safety were concerns raised for the intersection of **Charles and Dorcas Streets**. Particular emphasis was given to the delay of busses turning left from Charles to Dorcas to access the nearby school. The intersection was found to operate at an acceptable level of service under existing and projected (2037) traffic volumes. Protected left turn phasing is not currently warranted. A longer-term recommendation would be for the County to coordinate with SEDA-COG and PennDOT District 2-0 when the bridge over Kishacoquillas Creek is scheduled to be replaced. Design of a new structure should consider additional width to accommodate left turn lane storage for the intersection.

In Brown Township, the intersection of **PA 655 at Three Cent Lane** operates at acceptable levels of service, although the intersection has other deficiencies. It has an insufficient turning radius to accommodate large commercial vehicle movements and the foundations of various sign posts are fixed object hazards located within the clear zone. There is land development pressure within this general area, with plans for a new convenience store, fire station, and PennDOT highway garage. Any planned development should undergo a traffic impact study to determine future needed capacity improvements at the intersection. A Traffic Impact Study for the Quillas Creek land development in April 2010 estimated

Many of the deficiencies observed along the US 522 corridor are eligible for improvement through PennDOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program.

PA 655 at Three Cent Lane operates at acceptable levels of service but will need improvements as development occurs.

that a traffic signal and turning lanes would be warranted at the intersection by 2015, even without full build out of Quillas Creek.

The intersection of **Mill Street at Electric Avenue** is situated adjacent to the off-ramp of US 22/322. The off-ramp is yield controlled, while the intersection is stop controlled. Mill Street itself carries a daily volume of approximately 1,850 (not annualized). PennDOT crash data reveal a limited number of crashes (two over the past five years) and regional police report a limited number of non-reportable crashes. Alternatives for the intersection include installing a concrete island that would require all northbound traffic on Mill Street to turn right onto Electric Avenue. Another alternative would be to make Mill Street one-way southbound to eliminate any conflicts with the exit ramp and Electric Avenue.



CHAPTER 10

HOUSING PLAN

INTENT

Improving housing choice and the overall quality of housing remain important long term goals for Mifflin County's quality of life. The Housing Plan provides a framework for ensuring housing availability for all residents and for addressing housing shortages. The plan's goal to increase housing opportunities applies to four segments of the resident and future resident population:

- middle income and professional households
- low income households.
- households with special needs.
- elderly households

The objectives under each goal address the inventory and availability of safe housing for each population, their eligibility for assistance, and specific needs, such as accessibility.

The components of this Housing Plan include:

- Housing Goal and Objectives
- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Housing Action Plan

HOUSING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one housing goal and five supporting objectives to address specific housing needs.

GOAL:

To provide adequate safe housing at an affordable price.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Improve the condition of existing housing and neighborhoods.
2. Increase housing opportunities for middle income and professional households.
3. Increase and improve housing opportunities for low income households.
4. Create new housing opportunities for households with special needs.
5. Increase the number of affordable accessible rental housing units for elderly households.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Housing Plan supports the Economic Development Plan with recommendations for modern housing opportunities for professionals and rehabilitated housing in downtowns near employment opportunities.

The Housing Plan supports the Land Use Plan with recommendations for the maintenance, rehabilitation and development of housing that positively contributes to the County's tax base.

The Housing Plan coordinates with the Community Facilities Plan by recommending housing in urbanized areas where services are readily available and for residents who are transitioning from a variety of public assistance and service programs.

The Housing Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations for historic resource designation and preservation, particularly in downtown improvement and revitalization plans.

The Housing Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending re-use and redevelopment of existing downtowns and new mixed use neighborhoods that promote healthy, non-motorized travel.

HOUSING ACTION PLAN

Action strategies and implementation tools have been developed to demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed by key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- ◆ a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- ◆ entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
- ◆ a time frame for initiating the strategy
- ◆ potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

OBJECTIVE 1: Improve the Condition of Existing Housing and Neighborhoods.

Seventy-five percent of the County’s housing stock was built prior to 1980. Now more than 30 years old, these homes may require one or more significant investments to bring them up to code, modernize their interiors, or improve their energy efficiency.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #1. Provide technical and financial resources to bring owner and rental properties up to code.

Recommendations

1. Continue support of the County housing rehabilitation program; increase support with additional funding sources. This program has benefited many homeowners, and may well have increased the property values of the home affected as well as surrounding properties.
2. Encourage municipalities with significant rental properties to enact rental registration and rental inspections programs. Juniata Terrace Borough has such a program and Lewistown is preparing one. Municipalities could contract with one of these municipalities or a third party for rental inspections services.
3. Utilize incentives to encourage landlords with vacant units above commercial properties, e.g. in the Monument Square Area, to bring their units up-to-code. Modern residential units would be an

Some housing needs can be met by bringing the existing housing stock up to code.

excellent resource for people who work in the Borough, especially hospital workers who must commute at irregular hours. It would also provide a 24-hour presence in the downtown area, which would deter crime and bring a greater vibrancy to the area which, in turn, could spur the creation of new businesses.

4. Utilize incentives to encourage landlords to bring their units up to federal housing quality standards (HQS) and address lead-based paint issues. Incentives could include low-interest loans and grants for rehabilitation of rental properties, and/or a property improvement tax abatement program. Some communities have targeted tax abatement efforts to larger investors whose activities would have a major impact on the community. Target incentives toward properties that would qualify as historic and whose owners could therefore take advantage of state and federal historic tax credits to aid in financing rehabilitation.
5. Enforce codes to maintain marketable rental properties. Explore successful best practices in other counties and communities.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipal, Private

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding and Financing Sources: CDBG, Growing Greener II, HOME, Tax Credit and Tax Abatement programs

The County can be greater conduit for state housing programs.

AS #2. Provide resources to make existing housing accessible.

Much of the housing stock in Mifflin County, especially in Lewistown, is not accessible for an individual who uses a walker or a wheelchair. In order for residents with disabilities to remain in the community, to age in place or to transition from institutions back into the community, more homes need to be made accessible.

Recommendations

1. Apply for funding under the PA Accessible Housing Program (PAHP) funded through DCED's Keystone Communities Program. Funding can be used for such accessibility modifications as installation of ramps, door-widening, lowered kitchen cabinets, and installation of grab bars. The program is targeted to communities that do not currently have an existing home modification program.

2. Obtain information about the PA Housing Finance Agency’s (PHFA’s) Home Modifications Construction Officer Pilot Program (HMCO) and share with Mifflin County’s disability organizations including those involved with Nursing Home Transition. This pilot program provides professional home modification contractors to work with homeowners. They conduct assessments for home modifications and follow the home modification process through to completion. Mifflin County is one of the counties included in the pilot with services coordinated by the Center for Independent Living of Central PA (CILCP).

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: Keystone Communities

OBJECTIVE 2: Increase housing opportunities for middle income and professional households.

There needs to be an adequate supply of various types of housing throughout the County to meet the needs and desires of the growing workforce of professionals. Currently, many of these individuals are choosing to live in Centre County for its schools, amenities, and established professional community.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #3. Make living in Mifflin County more attractive to middle income and professional households.

The Planning and Development Department, the Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation and other interested entities should investigate methods to make housing and neighborhoods more appealing and to market their qualities.

Recommendations

1. Increase opportunities for first time resident homebuyers. Current Mifflin County residents, those choosing to return to Mifflin County and new/prospective employees, would benefit from First Time Homebuyer programs that provide closing costs and or down payment assistance and homebuyer counseling. This should

Efforts to renew public spaces, rehabilitate community landmarks, and enhance and create new amenities and things to do will help attract moderate and higher income households to Mifflin County.

be pursued with local lenders who would benefit from creating a new client base for their banks. Programs are available through the PHFA and could also be funded through the Mifflin County Housing Trust Fund (established by Act 137 of 1992). The Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh's First Front Door Program for first time homebuyers is currently unavailable but is expected to restart in the future.

2. Develop marketing materials promoting the desirability of living in Mifflin County targeted to graduate students and young faculty. The affordability of Mifflin County and its proximity to State College are potential selling features.
3. Attract developers to create more housing opportunities in Mifflin County. Using information obtained from employers about current and prospective employees, develop a marketing package to entice developers to choose to build in Mifflin County, including both new construction and adaptive reuse of buildings, such as schools and buildings in downtown Lewistown.
4. Investigate models of Employer Assisted Housing (EAH). EAH is a set of incentives that employers provide to encourage people to live near their place of employment. Studies have shown that this results in less absenteeism and greater job satisfaction. EAH is generally used in communities where housing costs are very high and employees choose to live in more distant and less expensive markets. However, the same incentives can be used to overcome other real or perceived barriers.

Among the incentives employers can provide are closing cost and/or down payment assistance, mortgage guarantee or insurance, mortgage buy-down (paying points at closing bringing down interest rates), housing site subsidy (employer sells or leases land at a discount to a developer), construction financing to developers, tax abatements for buyers and purchase guarantee to developers. These types of incentives should be discussed with the major employers to determine their interest and with their employees or potential employees to determine what impact these incentives might have on their desire to settle in the County.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipal, Private

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: PA Housing Finance Agency

OBJECTIVE 3: Increase and improve housing opportunities for low income households.

Given the age and condition of the existing housing stock, especially in Lewistown, it is critical that new affordable rental housing opportunities be created through new construction, substantial rehabilitation of current residential properties or adaptive reuse of non-residential properties. New housing development utilizing public funds also have the requirement that a portion of the units be wheelchair accessible, thereby also addressing the need for accessible housing. In order to accomplish this, the Housing Coalition or another designated entity needs to identify potential developers, sites and funding sources.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #4. Assist homeowners and renters in improving their ability to acquire and retain housing.

Recommendations

1. Support the provision of training and counseling services that focus on household budgeting and homeowner and renter preparedness for housing responsibilities by human and social service agencies.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Private, Non-Profit

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: CDBG, HOME

AS #5. Encourage landlords to document landlord and tenant responsibilities in a lease.

Recommendations

1. Develop a checklist of key lease provisions that tenants can use to evaluate leases proposed by landlords
2. Develop and provide a model lease agreement to landlords.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: 2014-2015
Funding Sources: Not Applicable

AS #6. Encourage developers to develop additional affordable housing units. There are experienced for-profit and non-profit developers who have already developed affordable housing in the region.

Recommendations

Inviting developers of affordable housing to Mifflin County and providing them with tools and incentives can help to meet current and future needs.

1. Encourage developers and owners of affordable rental housing developments to access funding under the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Act. This recent amendment to the HUD Section 811 Supportive Housing Program allows rental assistance to be used in conjunction with Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) or other housing development funding sources or in existing housing to provide site-based rental subsidies to up to 25% of the units in an affordable housing development. The first allocation of funding under the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Act became available spring 2012 and the PHFA will apply for these funds in order to make rental assistance available to developers of affordable housing. This will incentivize developers and property managers to target units to people with disabilities.
2. Identify the market need(s). For special needs populations, identify service partners and bring them into the planning process early.
3. Identify potential sites for affordable rental housing.
 - a. Develop criteria for ranking sites for affordable housing, such as:
 - Proximity to employment, services and amenities;
 - Coordination with other development/ planning activities such as Main Street/Elm Street programs or other economic development initiatives;
 - Availability and price of the site;
 - Absence or remediation of impediments to housing development such as environmental problems, zoning issues, potential NIMBYism;

- Availability of public sewer and water, or is large enough for installation of an on-site system
 - b. Identify sites that provide opportunities for affordable housing development.
 - c. Evaluate the sites for either affordable housing or market-rate housing development.
4. Contact affordable housing developers who have been active in Mifflin County and surrounding counties to determine their interest in developing additional units in the County. The following developers have been active in Mifflin County:
- JDL Management: Big Valley Apartments in Reedsville, 12 units, General Occupancy; Taylor Park II (Brown Apartments) in Reedsville, 20 units General Occupancy
 - The Yoder Group: Warrior Run in Turbotville, 41 units, Elderly
 - SEDA-COG: awarded LIHTCs in 2011: Mann Edge Terrace in Lewistown, 31 units, Elderly
 - Shelter Services: awarded SHP-Permanent Supportive Housing funds to develop 9 units for homeless.
 - Mifflin County Public Housing Authority: submitted an application for 2012 low income housing tax credits in collaboration with Shelter Services for 26 units for elderly.
5. Assist developers in obtaining available studies and data to support and strengthen their funding applications.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipal, Private, Non-Profit

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding and Financing Sources: Not applicable for outreach; Low Income Housing Tax Credits for developers

Many strategies for increasing low income housing can benefit persons with disabilities.

OBJECTIVE 4: Create new housing opportunities for households with special needs.

Households with special needs need affordable, accessible housing as described under Objective 3, as well as access to services. Further, they may face discrimination and other challenges in the private housing market. The following strategies can be used in conjunction with those for low income households to address these additional needs.

The strategies described under housing for low income households are all applicable to individuals with special needs, however, there are some opportunities that are targeted specifically to providing affordable housing for households with special needs. These funding sources generally emphasize the importance of partnerships between housing providers and service providers and may provide funding for the provision of services.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #7. Encourage developers of low income housing tax credit (LIHTC) projects to target units for people with disabilities.

While all LIHTC projects must have at least 10% of their units affordable to households with incomes under 20% of Area Median Income and at least half of these units (5% of total units) wheelchair accessible, they can also target units to people with special needs such as people with disabilities and homeless. New regulations/programs can be utilized to support this, as outlined below.

Recommendations

The Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural PA is the designated LLA for Mifflin County.

1. Encourage developers of Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects to coordinate their development plans with the Local Lead Agency (LLA) early in the planning process. This will maximize recruitment of households who need the accessibility features and/or services that will be available. The LLAs provides a single point of contact for referrals to developments; assures property managers receive referrals in a timely manner; assisting tenants to secure one-time move-in funds; assures that tenants receive supports and assistance needed to comply with lease requirements; provides, coordinates, or contracts with agencies that provide services to populations targeted in the development; and serve as a contact for property managers to address tenancy concerns.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipal

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Not applicable for local coordination; Low Income Housing Tax Credits for developers

AS #8. Create housing resources for people with criminal justice involvement.

Among the hardest people to house are people with criminal records. Statistics have shown that a lack of housing for this group can contribute to recidivism and re-incarceration. Incarceration is expensive and not necessarily the most appropriate housing solution for people who have committed non-violent crimes.

Recommendations

1. Assist the Criminal Justice Advisory Board in identifying and evaluating sites for transitional or permanent housing for people with a criminal record.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Not applicable

AS #9. Support agencies providing transitional services to people with special needs.

Persons with special needs may need life skills education or support to become less dependent on public housing services.

Recommendations

1. Continue to support the Mifflin-Juniata Housing Coalition in its efforts to develop and expand programs, such as Prepared Renter Program and Master Leasing.
2. Explore housing needs and challenges among the County's veterans to determine if there is a need or a concentrated need for short or long term housing among this group.

Agencies like the Mifflin-Juanita Housing Coalition provide transitional services to move people from assistance to independent living.

Priority Level: Moderate
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: HOME

OBJECTIVE 5: Increase the number of affordable accessible rental housing units for elderly households.

With its rapidly aging population, housing for the elderly is a critical need.

Mifflin County has a sizable and growing elderly population. While there are affordable housing resources in the County, there is not enough to meet the need of this aging population. The Mifflin County Housing Authority reported that the largest demand for affordable housing is for units for elderly households.

The strategies discussed under low income and special needs households are also relevant to the housing needs of the aging population – in particular those that promote increasing the number of affordable, accessible units and assisting households and property owners to make existing housing accessible. The following are additional strategies targeted specifically to aging households.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #10. Encourage the development of new affordable housing for the elderly.

Mann Edge Terrace in Lewistown is an example of affordable senior housing. The development of such housing requires a significant amount of planning prior to raising the funds for the proposed housing development. The following pre-development steps will position Mifflin County to successfully plan for new elderly housing.

Recommendations

1. Identify the area(s) of the County that have the greatest need/demand for housing for elderly households. Using sources such as census data, affordable housing waiting lists, market studies conducted for previous housing developments, and stakeholder input including the Nursing Home Transition Coordinator of the Mifflin-Juniata Area Agency on Aging, determine where in the County there is the greatest need for additional housing for the elderly.

2. Once the highest priority locations are identified, locate potential development sites using the criteria proposed in Objective 3.
3. Determine what type or types of elderly housing are most needed. Consider the size of the unit as well as temporary/emergency housing vs. permanent housing.
4. Obtain information on shared housing, also known as co-housing. There are many different models of shared housing. In some, an aging adult shares his or her home with other aging adults or younger people, sharing costs and responsibilities. This is typically coordinated by a local organization. Information is available from the National Shared Housing Resource Center, <http://nationalsharedhousing.org/>.
5. Identify potential developers. As described above, there are developers who have previous experience in Mifflin County and in surrounding counties that may be interested in developing new housing, especially when sites are already identified and there is full cooperation from key stakeholders in the County.
6. Remain current on the funding priorities and application schedules for the key funders of affordable housing for the elderly, e.g. PHFA, HUD Section 202, Federal Home Loan Bank. The due dates from previous funding cycles provide a good estimate for future cycles. The window from the date an application is announced until the application is due is not adequate to fully plan a project. It is therefore important to have the above planning steps completed so that the County or a developer can submit a viable application on schedule. In addition, funding priorities change from year to year and it is important to know what those priorities are as early in the planning process as possible to be sure that the proposed project is aligned with priorities.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipal

Time Frame: 2014-2015

Funding Sources: CDBG, HOME, PA Housing Finance Agency

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CHAPTER II

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

INTENT

As presented in Chapter 4, Mifflin County, along with the nation, suffered job losses during the economic downturn, beginning in early 2007. From 2006 to 2010, job growth outpaced the state in manufacturing, natural resource-based industries, accommodation/food services, and the health care sector, and in 2010, overall job growth turned positive. As a benchmark, the economic base in Mifflin County in 2010 was largely comprised of the following industry sectors:

- Manufacturing – 27%
- Retail – 13%
- Health Care – 19%
- Educational Services – 11%
- Accommodation and Food Services – 8%

Yet unemployment remains among the highest in the region. Employment opportunities are not matched to residents' skills and interests and workforce training is not aligned to local employment needs, resulting in residents increasingly commuting out of the County, and others increasingly commuting in, for employment. Many commercial properties are vacant or underutilized, while industrial uses have fully occupied designated industrial lands.

The components of this Economic Development Plan include:

- Economic Development Goal and Objectives
- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Economic Development Action Plan

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one economic development goal and six supporting objectives.

GOAL:

To provide opportunities that diversify the County's economic base by building a more highly skilled workforce to attract new business and industry, and by creating new sites and marketing for industrial/commercial growth and development.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Enhance coordination and leadership of economic development efforts in Mifflin County.
2. Leverage the region's educational resources for workforce development.
3. Designate and prepare new sites for industry and prioritize sites for redevelopment
4. Develop financial incentives to encourage economic development
5. Establish unique retail environments throughout Mifflin County
6. Promote Mifflin County as great place for business and industry.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Economic Development Plan is specifically coordinated with other elements of this comprehensive plan.

The Economic Development Plan supports the Housing Plan with recommendations for revitalizing downtowns and villages.

The Economic Development Plan supports the Land Use Plan with recommendations for guidance for identifying potential sites for business and industry zoning and re-using and redeveloping for contemporary uses.

The Economic Development Plan coordinates with the Community Facilities Plan by recommending the extension of water and sewer utilities only within planned growth areas where most business is expected to locate.

The Economic Development Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations for historic preservation and expansion of tourism, including heritage tourism.

The Economic Development Plan supports the Environmental Resources Plan with recommendations to brand the natural and cultural features of Mifflin County that make it a distinctive place to live.

The Economic Development Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending re-use and redevelopment of existing downtowns and new mixed use neighborhoods that promote walking and biking and by recommending the expansion of trails for non-motorized travel and recreation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Action strategies and implementation tools demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed by key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

Action strategies and implementation tools demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress.

Objective 1. Enhance coordination and leadership of economic development efforts in Mifflin County.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #1. Coordinate and guide the economic development efforts within Mifflin County.

Mifflin County sits in a key location between two metropolitan areas, State College and the City of Harrisburg. Conveniently accessed by U.S. Route 322 and U.S. Route 522, the County is in a strong position to create new

economic development opportunities.

During the development of the County’s Comprehensive Plan, 2000, improving the economic climate was a key consideration. In response to concerns identified during that planning process, an economic development summit was held in September of 2000, resulting in an economic development strategy with clearly defined goals, objectives and a mission statement. Of note, the Economic Development Strategy was never officially adopted by the County.

Team Mifflin County was created in January of 2001 to coordinate and guide the County’s economic development efforts. Its membership was comprised of business and industry leaders of Mifflin County but did not have a direct relationship with Mifflin County Board of Commissioners or County departments. The organization faltered for lack of resources and is currently inactive.

The need to have a coordinated economic development effort is as important today as it was in 2001.

Although a decade has passed, the need to have a coordinated effort is as important today as it was in 2001. In order to achieve the economic objectives identified within this Plan, the County must establish broad economic leadership to facilitate and coordinate economic development efforts throughout the County.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establish a Mifflin County Economic Development Commission (or re-conceive Team Mifflin County as a public-private partnership) and its mission: to coordinate and guide the economic development efforts in Mifflin County. The Commission would be the official economic development arm of the County. Its 11 to 15 members would be appointed by the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners by resolution and serve staggered terms.

The Commission would meet quarterly to discuss economic development issues and to monitor the implementation of this Economic Development Plan. It would file an annual “State of the County” report with the County Commissioners and hold an annual meeting to present the report to leaders of the community, including local officials, business leaders, non-profits, and other institutions engaged in improving the economic climate in Mifflin County.

Suggested members of the Economic Development Commission include:

- County Commissioners
- County Planning Department

- Mifflin County Industrial Development Corporation (MCIDC)
- Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Lewistown
- Mifflin County School District
- Tuscarora Intermediate Unit
- Career Technology Center
- Lewistown Hospital
- A financial institution representative
- Local municipal representative(s), preferably from townships with industrial/commercial growth potential
- Private Industry representatives, e.g. GE, Standard Steel
- A Retail Sector representative

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector

Time Frame: 2014-2015

Funding Sources: Discovered and Developed in PA Program (D2PA)

AS #2. Expand the Planning and Development Department to include Economic Development.

Although the creation of the Economic Development Commission is important, the implementation of this Plan will require regular staff support.

The Economic Development Commission will require regular staff support.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Retitle the Planning and Development Department to include economic development, e.g. as the Community and Economic Development Department.
2. Allocate at least 12-16 hours per week towards the effort of implementing the recommendations of this Economic Development Plan.
3. Provide funding to properly train county staff in the field of economic development. For example, a basic course in economic development is offered by Penn State. The course is offered in early December with a registration fee of approximately \$600.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector

Time Frame: 2014-2015

Funding Sources: Not applicable

Objective 2. Leverage the region’s educational resources for workforce development.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #3. Build and Maintain the Workforce

The County needs to invest in quality education programs to properly train its present and future workforce.

In today’s ever-changing economy, it is critical that the County’s youth be provided with quality K-12 education that enables them to enter the workforce with core capabilities and technical skills and that provides a foundation for continued learning at post-secondary education levels. The skills gained through the Mifflin County’s public education system and its additional workforce training programs are not meeting the technical skill requirements of the existing local industry nor those of industries targeted for growth. The County needs to invest in quality education programs to properly train its present and future workforce to enable them to gain and retain consistent employment, and to grow the County’s overall economy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conduct a 2-part community audit to determine needs, resources, and gaps in the local workforce development system:
 - A labor analysis to gather information on employment status (employed, underemployed, re-entering retirees); employment location; commuter patterns; willingness to travel; interest in changing jobs; occupational background and skills; education training; and wage requirements.
 - An employer analysis to determine recruiting experience; labor characteristics; commuting patterns; training capabilities and program; and outside training assistance currently provided.
2. Identify training programs to be developed through the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit-11, the Mifflin County School District, and the workforce development program based on the gaps identified through the labor and employer analyses.
3. Develop special fairs and events at primary and secondary schools to educate the County’s youth on the importance of having a quality education and the local employment opportunities that exist for those who further their education after high school.
4. Develop special programs and events geared towards the County’s adults to keep them informed of educational programs as well as opportunities for employment within the County.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector,

Education Partners

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Discovered in PA, Developed in PA (D2PA)

Objective 3. Designate and prepare new sites for industry and prioritize sites for redevelopment.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #4. Identify and Prioritize Sites for New Industrial/Commerce Parks.

Industrial parks are currently at full capacity with no surrounding area available for expansion. The County should work with the MCIDC, with input from local officials, to identify new sites conducive to industrial and/or commerce parks that have ready access to rail freight and highway transportation services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop and maintain a prioritized inventory of potential industrial properties to expand the County’s industrial capacity. Ensure that all rail-served industrial site expansion and development opportunities are coordinated with the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority.
2. Rank each site by the following criteria; rate each criterion on a scale of 1 (low) to 3 (high):
 - o Availability
 - o Developable acreage
 - o Access to roads/rail
 - o Infrastructure (sewer, water, electric, broadband, etc.)
 - o Compatibility with surrounding land uses
3. Select one or more of the highest ranking sites for development or further investment.
4. Seek funding to develop the priority site into industrial and/or commerce parks.

Many properties should be evaluated for potential future industrial designation and (re)development with input from county economic development leaders and

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Business in Our Sites Loans (for infrastructure development)

AS #5. Identify and prioritize underutilized properties and/or sites and identify highest and best use/redevelopment scenarios for these properties/sites.

There are a number of sites and properties located throughout Mifflin County that are underutilized. These sites represent an opportunity for Mifflin County to not only strengthen its tax base, but to reinvigorate these areas with new life and energy and convey a positive image of the County to its residents and visitors alike.

Redevelopment not only strengthens the tax base but also invigorates neighborhoods with new vitality and a

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop and maintain a prioritized inventory of potential properties/sites that are underutilized, vacant and in need of redevelopment.
2. Rank each site by the following criteria; rate each criterion on a scale of 1 (low) to 3 (high):
 - Availability
 - Location (i.e. gateways, commercial plaza/strip center, etc.)
 - Infrastructure (sewer, water, electric, etc.)
3. Prioritize the sites based on the highest score received during the ranking process.
4. Develop a master plan for the highest and best use of the priority sites.
5. Develop a redevelopment plan for each site to determine resources required.
6. Seek assistance and identify partnerships needed to redevelop sites according to redevelopment plan.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Business in Our Sites Loan program

AS #6. Develop Infrastructure to Expand and Create New Opportunities for Economic Development

While some areas of the County have been improved with construction of new roads, water, sewer and broadband facilities, there are others areas of the County that lack this type of infrastructure. To diversify its economic base, the County must identify areas that are in need of basic infrastructure.

Mifflin County must provide infrastructure in areas planned for growth.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Using infrastructure gaps identified during AS#5, move forward with infrastructure improvements and/or expansion to help facilitate the development of new industrial and commercial sites. Address:
 - Public water and sewer service
 - Broadband service
 - Natural gas service
 - Highway and rail access
2. Seek federal and state grant funds to construct infrastructure in each of the priority areas.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities and Authorities, Private Sector

Time Frame: 2018-2019

Funding Sources: Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank, PennVEST, Keystone Communities Public Infrastructure Grant, PennDOT Rail Freight Assistance Program, USDA Rural Utility Service Broadband Initiatives Program, Public-Private Partnerships

Objective 4. Develop financial incentives to encourage economic development.

LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE (LERTA)

Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance districts are defined areas that provide property owners forgiveness on real property taxes that are directly attributable to a property's increased valuation brought about by new construction or other improvements. According to state law, a LERTA district shall be established for a period not to exceed 10 years. A taxpayer who applies for an exemption any time before the LERTA district expires

Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance, LERTA, forgives the tax increase in improved property value for up to 10 years.

is entitled to the full exemption schedule authorized by local ordinance. Local ordinances typically establish an exemption schedule that abates a percentage of a property's assessed value. After the exemption schedule has been satisfied, property owners resume paying all real estate taxes based on their property's full assessed value. Properties located within a LERTA district must continue to remit taxes associated with the property's base value (i.e., the assessed value prior to district establishment).

Pennsylvania's LERTA law gives local governments complete discretion in how they structure tax abatements in a LERTA district. Some taxing bodies provide different tax abatements for new construction vs. building renovations and/or might extend the abatement period for projects associated with significant job creation. It is less common that a taxing body would provide 100% abatement for a full 10 years without attaching specific capital investment and/or job creation requirements.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF)

Tax Increment Financing districts are defined areas that capture a portion of tax revenue above a property's initial assessed valuation and utilize that increment to retire debt used to finance public or private improvements related to a new development. TIF-generated financing must be used to pay debt service on improvements associated with the TIF district.

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's Urban Redevelopment Law, properties to be included within a proposed TIF district must satisfy the criteria for "blight" and be designated as such by the local municipality. In order to qualify for TIF, projects must be able to satisfy a "but for" test – "but for" TIF the development would not occur. TIF is most beneficial for real estate development projects that have significant up-front infrastructure costs that cannot be supported in the project pro forma based on anticipated revenue from land sales and/or tenant leases. Developers benefit from a TIF because this finance mechanism does not rely on a project's revenue stream (e.g., land sales, tenant leases) to finance improvements.

The percentage of incremental tax revenue captured for debt service is often referred to as the "diversion rate" or "capture rate." Each of the three local taxing bodies (e.g., municipality, school district, county) must agree to opt in OR opt out of the TIF district and via ordinance or resolution must establish their particular "diversion rate." Each taxing body can establish its own unique diversion rate, but ultimately, the taxes diverted must be sufficient to service TIF debt or there must be a developer agreement sufficient to offset debt service costs not supported by diverted tax increment.

Tax Increment Financing, TIF, captures above a property's assessed value and applies it to debt used to finance local

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #7. Develop Financial Incentives to Encourage Economic Development.

Mifflin County is competing on regional, state, national, and global levels for new business and industry. Financing tools at one or more levels could help to attract private investment into the County. Financial incentives, such as the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Abatement (LERTA), Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and Historic Tax Credits programs, are tax-related tools being used by older communities to encourage redevelopment and to entice developers to invest in a community. Local loan assistance is available from the Mifflin County Revolving Loan Fund and Mifflin County Industrial Development Authority financing programs. Additional financing tools are available from the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority and SEDA-COG.

Financing tools could help to attract private investment into the County.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Based on AS #4 and #5, identify areas to be designated as LERTA Districts and TIF Districts. These two programs should be used on sites identified as high priority development/redevelopment sites.
2. Meet with local elected officials to discuss the LERTA and TIF programs.
3. Develop LERTA Program. Guidelines should include:
 - Boundaries of the LERTA program
 - Amount of exemption (percentages of taxes to be abated)
 - Number of years for abatement
 - Other stipulations as discussed with local municipal officials
4. Develop a Mifflin County TIF program. Guidelines should include:
 - Districts to be established
 - Improvements to be financed through the TIF:
 - Roadways
 - Rail
 - Sewer/Water
 - Utility Relocation
 - On-site improvements
5. Develop authorizing ordinances to be adopted by each of the participating municipalities, as well as resolutions for the County and School District, to authorize desired financing programs.

6. Promote financing tools in conjunction with a broader economic marketing campaign.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Not applicable

Objective 5. Establish unique retail environments throughout Mifflin County

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #8. Develop Opportunities to Create Unique Retail Environments

With the exception of downtown Lewistown, Mifflin County lacks the kind of retail environments that provide an opportunity for the clustering of boutique retail stores. Some of the County's older plazas and strip centers have not been renovated since construction, one or more decades ago, and require new facades, if not redevelopment, to create attractive shopping environments that appeal to destination retailers and customers.

Mifflin County lacks retail environments that support clustered boutique stores.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Identify areas within the County for site development to enable the clustering of unique, boutique retail stores. These sites could include, but should not be limited to:
 - o A. J. Peachy and Sons Inc. Restaurant. This location would take advantage of the existing consumer base attracted to the restaurant
 - o The Quillas Creek development project located adjacent to the County's airport
 - o The Dairyland Site, which has the visibility of U.S. Route 322
 - o Belleville, Allensville, Reedsville, Milroy, McVeytown also provide opportunities for creating niche retail
2. Visit places that offer boutique retail stores and restaurants to understand how the projects evolved. For example, Kitchen Kettle Village in Intercourse, Pennsylvania, is an example of a retail village that began as a two-car garage cannery and has expanded to include restaurants, a canning kitchen, boutique retailers, and special events.

3. Provide technical and financial assist to developers, such as that of the Derry Heights project, to create unique retail and entertainment anchors.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Discovered in PA, Developed in PA (D2PA)

Objective 6. Promote Mifflin County as great place for business and industry.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #9. Develop a Brand and Marketing Campaign for the County

Mifflin County needs to actively promote itself as a place to conduct business and as a place to live, work, visit and play. It should collaborate with the Chamber of Commerce and Focus Pennsylvania to invite and pursue new business online and in person.

Mifflin County needs to actively promote itself as a place for business with quality workers and services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop a brand image for Mifflin County's economic development program. The image should embody positive attributes of Mifflin County's location, workforce, infrastructure, public services, and culture.
2. Develop a marketing plan that identifies the target audience(s) and methods of advertising to be used (print material, billboards, etc.).
3. Develop marketing materials that support the marketing plan. The marketing materials may include the single page profiles, available online and compiled in hard copy, about:
 - o County assets
 - o County demographics
 - o Available properties and areas for development
 - o Financial incentives

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: 2018-2019

Funding Sources: Discovered in PA, Developed in PA (D2PA)

AS #10. Foster and promote year round recreation opportunities for people who live, work, and visit Mifflin County.

Having plenty of things to do year round makes a community an enjoyable place to live, work, and visit. “Things to do” in small towns and rural communities include parks and recreation facilities and recreation and cultural programs and special events – places and programs that enable people to be physically, mentally and socially active both indoors and outdoors. The County’s scenic beauty and outdoor recreational resources, in particular, could help to position this central Pennsylvania region as a tourism destination. The Juniata/Mifflin Counties Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan should guide efforts to develop and promote recreational and cultural opportunities for residents and visitors.

Having plenty of things to do year round will help make Mifflin County an enjoyable place to live, work, and visit.

1. Continue a close alliance with the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Bureau. Continue to invite broader participation in the Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council.
2. Support the Juniata River Valley Regional Tourism Plan. Incorporate the parks and outdoor recreation opportunities as part of the tourism program. Develop brochures on outdoor recreation destinations for racks in visitor locations such as rest stops, hotels, and restaurants. Focus on the activities that appeal to both residents and tourists such as bicycling, hiking, enjoying nature, and special events. Coordinate efforts with the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Visitor’s Bureau.
3. Undertake projects in recreation that utilize heritage and natural resources to advance tourism for both local “staycations” and distance travelers. This may include the development and promotion of cycling routes along historic sites, and interpretive trails and programs highlighting of how local industry has used natural resources.
4. Consider the development of an agri-tourism program. Work with willing partners who support the idea to find, develop, and promote on-farm lodging, pick-your-own produce, and other activities.
5. Identify and publicize gaps in hospitality services.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector
Time Frame: 2014-2015 and ongoing
Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program, Keystone Communities, CDBG



CHAPTER 12 LAND USE PLAN

INTENT

Mifflin County's strategic location between State College and Harrisburg will continue to be an asset for community and economic development. Since the County is responsible for providing certain services to this development, Mifflin County is committed to guiding and assisting local officials in practicing sound land use planning to ensure future growth and development is beneficial, consistent, and orderly. Balanced land use planning will aid in creating economic opportunities and maintaining the character and quality of life desired by County residents.

This Plan provides a vision for Mifflin County's growth and development – one where business, industry, housing and institutions are efficiently served by utilities and public services, and where agriculture and forestry thrive in rural areas of the County. This vision promotes re-use and redevelopment as well as concentration of most new development in established, infrastructure served communities, and conservation-oriented development in the agricultural and forest landscapes.

To ensure the County's land use vision is attained, the land use plan provides policy, direction and guidance through its goal, objectives, and action strategies and the Future Land Use Map. These items take into account local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances, where they exist. The action strategies guide state, County and local officials, school district officials, community and business leaders, and private developers

The Land Use Plan promotes infill and redevelopment in established communities and continuation of agricultural and forest landscapes in rural areas.

and citizens in their decision-making. The Components of this Land Use Plan include:

- Land Use Goal and Objectives
- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Future Land Use Map
- Land Use Action Plan

LAND USE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) requires that municipal and multi-municipal comprehensive plans and their respective county comprehensive plans be generally consistent, such that when either applies to the state for community and economic development funding, both parties are in agreement of the desired land use outcome. Consistency is enforced by the state through the designation of priority status on certain funding sources to those municipalities that are consistent with their county plan. Therefore, county plans should have land use goals and objectives broad enough to reflect local conditions and local land use planning, where it has occurred, and specific enough to provide additional guidance, where it has not.

The County's land use policies include one goal and three supporting objectives.

GOAL:

To encourage sound, balanced land use and development practices in planned growth and planned conservation areas.

OBJECTIVES:

1. **Land Use Planning and Development:** Provide leadership and technical assistance to local municipalities in land use and development matters.
2. **Planned Growth Areas:** Encourage infrastructure- and service-intensive land uses to use, reuse and redevelop sites in compatible patterns within planned growth areas. Planned growth areas include the following, as shown on the Future Land Use map:
 - Urban Center Growth Areas that accommodate intensive uses and serve them with water and sewer utilities, a multi-modal transportation network, and proximity to public and community services.

- High Growth Areas, further sub-classified as Residential or Commercial/Industrial, that accommodate community and economic development in urban and suburban patterns;
 - Village Center Growth Areas that accommodate intensive uses in smaller communities and typically serve them with water and/or sewer utilities, some transportation facilities, and proximity to some public and community services;
 - Limited Growth Areas that accommodate pockets of intensive uses with water and/or sewer utilities and some transportation facilities.
3. **Planned Conservation Areas:** Conserve, steward and wisely use the rural landscape as planned conservation areas for resource-dependent land uses. Planned conservation areas include:
- Agricultural and Rural Development Areas that support agriculture, forestry, mineral extraction and resource-based recreation and tourism uses, as well as low density residential uses.
 - Natural Resource Conservation Areas that conserve sensitive natural resources for their valued ecological functions and protect them from most development and its impacts.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Land Use Plan is specifically coordinated with other elements of this comprehensive plan.

The Land Use Plan supports the Housing Plan with recommendations for municipal education and zoning updates to encourage a range of housing types and values, including affordable housing, housing for seniors, and modern, market rate housing for professionals. It also recommends allowing cluster housing and conservation design subdivisions in planned conservation areas.

The Land Use Plan supports the Economic Development Plan with recommendations for the designation of additional land for business and industry uses, particularly manufacturing, and for expansion of the tourism industry through riverfront redevelopment and river-based recreation.

The Land Use Plan coordinates with the Community Facilities Plan by recommending regular communication regarding anticipated development between municipalities and their respective school districts,

extension of water and sewer utilities throughout the planned growth areas, as development occurs, acquisition of new park and trail lands through the development process, and acquisition of floodprone lands to reduce demands on emergency services during flood events.

The Land Use Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations for historic preservation in downtown improvement and revitalization plans.

The Land Use Plan supports the Environmental Resources Plan with recommendations to limit development in agricultural areas, protecting prime farmland, and in forested, steep slope areas, protecting water supply and water quality.

The Land Use Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending re-use and redevelopment of existing downtowns and new mixed use neighborhoods that promote healthy, non-motorized travel; a stronger Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance that helps to extend and improve the existing transportation system through the development process, and access management for new and redeveloping properties along busy street and highways to improve travel safety.

FUTURE LAND USE MAP

The purpose of the Future Land Use Map is to illustrate the desired land use pattern. It is described here, in advance of the Land Use Action Plan, since many of the recommendations relate to designations made on the Future Land Use Map. See Figure 12-1 for a countywide view of future land use designations. See Figure 12-2 for detailed views of future land use designations in the County's most developed areas.

Mifflin County's 2000 Comprehensive Plan established six classifications "defined according to their present character and their preferred future character, as envisioned through citizen expectations and goals for the County's projected growth and development." The six classifications in its General Land Use Map were:

- Urban Center Growth Area;
- High Growth Areas, further sub-classified as Residential or Commercial/Industrial;
- Village Center Growth Areas;
- Limited Growth Areas;
- Rural Development Areas; and
- Natural Resource Protection Areas.

The 2014 Comprehensive Plan continues this land use management strategy, refines the geographic designation of Urban Center and High Growth Areas and reduces the number of villages that are planned for future growth or redevelopment.

In order to characterize areas suitable for intensive land uses and refine the Urban Center and High Growth areas, the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department assembled available spatial datasets of road, utility and public service infrastructure as well as datasets of environmental features. Each dataset was weighted for its influence on future development. Using CommunityVIZ, a GIS-based modeling application, it applied these weighted factors to each parcel in the County to generate a suitability score, ranging from 0 to 100. Parcels with the highest scores were designated lands suitable for Urban Center and High Growth.

A subsequent analysis focused on suitability for industrial development. Smaller roads and farmland were excluded from this analysis, and weights were adjusted to reflect their relative influence on industrial development. The same modeling application was used to apply the weighted data to each parcel and generate a suitability score for future industrial development. Again, parcels with the highest scores were designated suitable for future industrial development.

The Planning and Development Department also reviewed the extensive number of villages shown on the 2000 General Land Use Map. The staff recognized that some of these locations reflected historic crossroads villages that no longer function as community centers, though a business or two might still be present. These villages were removed from the village category so that the active villages remain the focus for any significant development in the agricultural and rural development area.

Finally, municipalities that have adopted zoning are acknowledged on the Future Land Use Map by including and illustrating their intensive use zoning districts. Unincorporated communities are designated as villages or limited growth areas, while the smallest communities are considered part of the agricultural and rural landscape, generally not suitable for any concentrated development.

The Future Land Use Map defines the Urban Center and High Growth Areas based on available roadway, service and utility infrastructure.

PLANNED GROWTH AREAS AND PLANNED CONSERVATION AREAS

The Planned Growth Areas are intended to accommodate the majority of residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional uses and support these moderate to intensive uses with public utilities and a multi-modal transportation system. Promoting and enabling development and redevelopment in these areas will help to reduce development pressure on and fragmentation of the rural landscape. Future land use classifications within the Planned Growth Areas include:

The planned growth areas can be a reference for prioritizing transportation and infrastructure maintenance and capacity improvements.

- Urban Center
- High Growth Area
- Village Center
- Limited Growth Area

The Planned Conservation Areas are primarily intended for uses that require access to natural resources such as soils for forestry and agricultural activities and surface geology for quarrying and mineral extraction. These activities require a limited amount of facility development. General land use classes within the Planned Conservation Areas include:

- Agricultural and Rural Development Area
- Natural Resource Conservation Area

FUTURE LAND USE IN PLANNED GROWTH AREAS

The **Urban Center** encompasses the Lewistown, Burnham, and Juniata Terrace Boroughs, as well as portions of Derry and Granville Townships that were defined as suitable for intensive uses per the Planning and Development Department’s analysis. In fact, much of this area has already been developed and in some cases redeveloped one or more times. Land uses appropriate for this land use category include residential, commercial, industrial, and public/semi-public uses – typically at moderate to high densities – as well as limited areas of open and green space such as parks, cemeteries and floodplains.

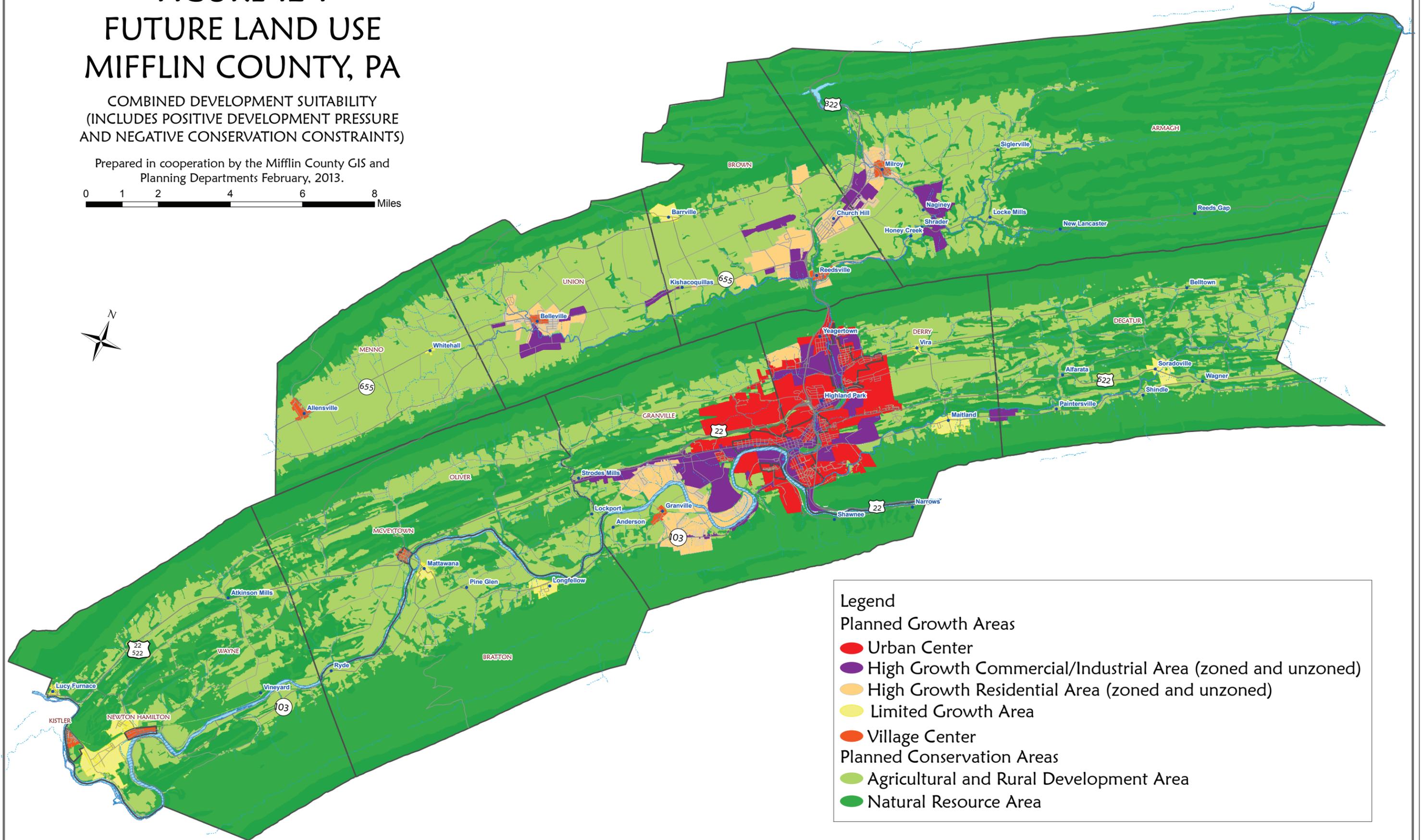
Villages are a substantial element of the Land Use Plan as hubs for community and economic development in the rural valleys.

The **High Growth Area** is that portion of the County that lies outside the Urban Center and is currently developed for intensive uses or suitable for additional development. These areas are served, will likely be served and should be served by water, sewer and stormwater utilities to support managed growth. This area contains specialized transportation facilities (i.e., highway, rail, and air) and commercial and industrial uses that rely on these facilities for their operations. The High Growth Area is divided

FIGURE 12-1 FUTURE LAND USE MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

COMBINED DEVELOPMENT SUITABILITY
(INCLUDES POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT PRESSURE
AND NEGATIVE CONSERVATION CONSTRAINTS)

Prepared in cooperation by the Mifflin County GIS and
Planning Departments February, 2013.



Legend

Planned Growth Areas

- Urban Center
- High Growth Commercial/Industrial Area (zoned and unzoned)
- High Growth Residential Area (zoned and unzoned)
- Limited Growth Area
- Village Center

Planned Conservation Areas

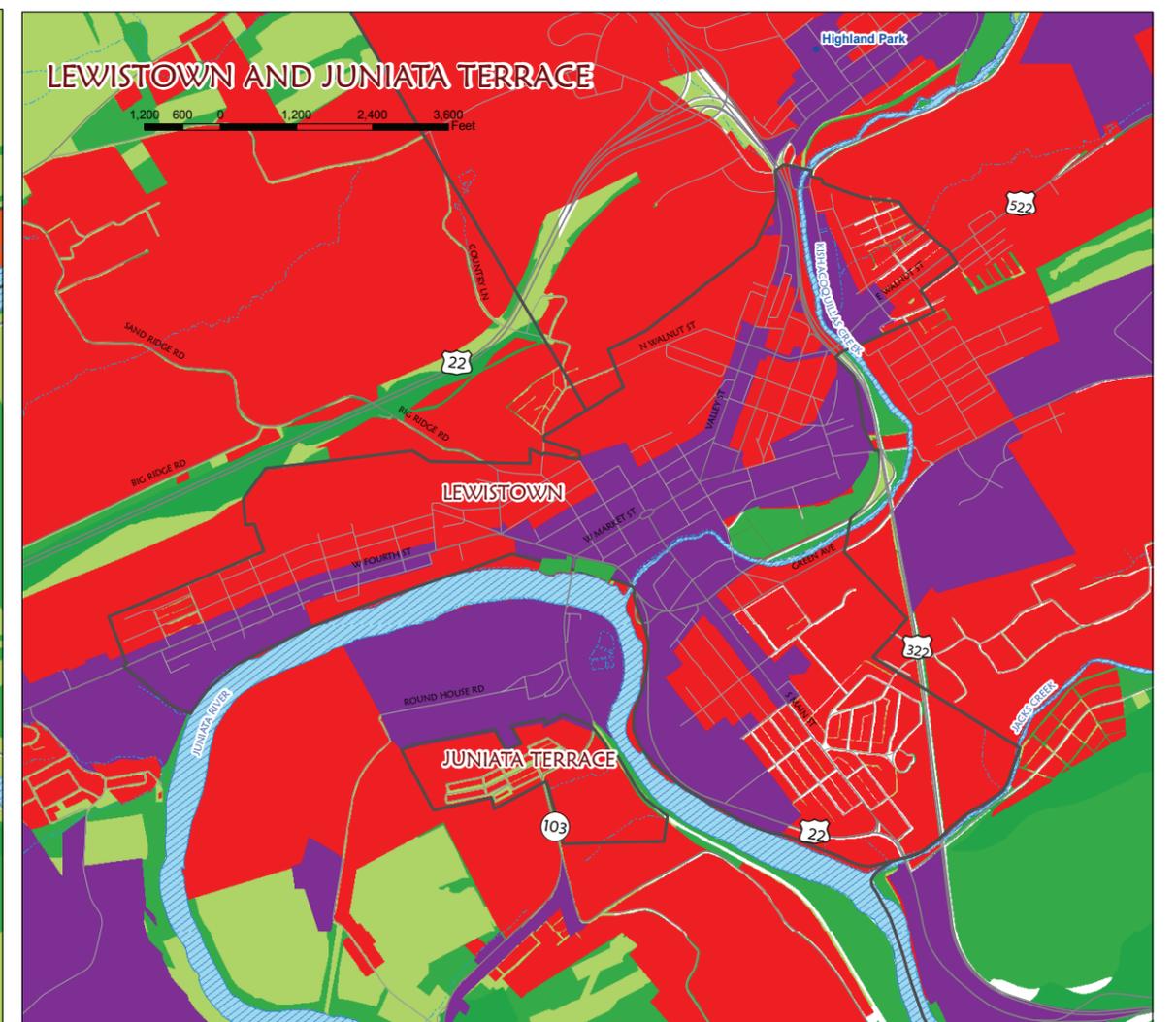
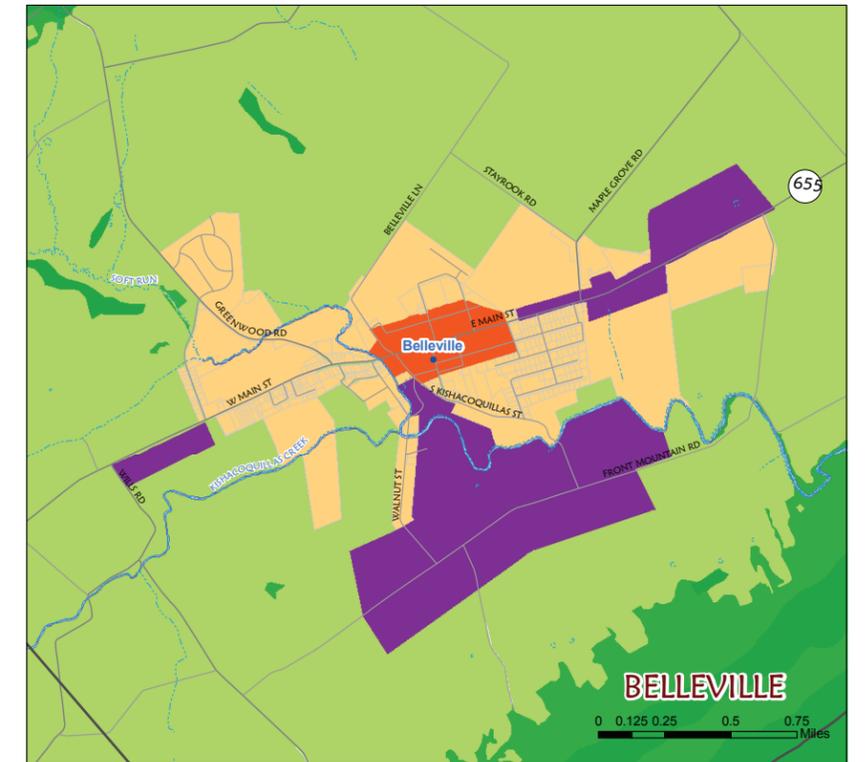
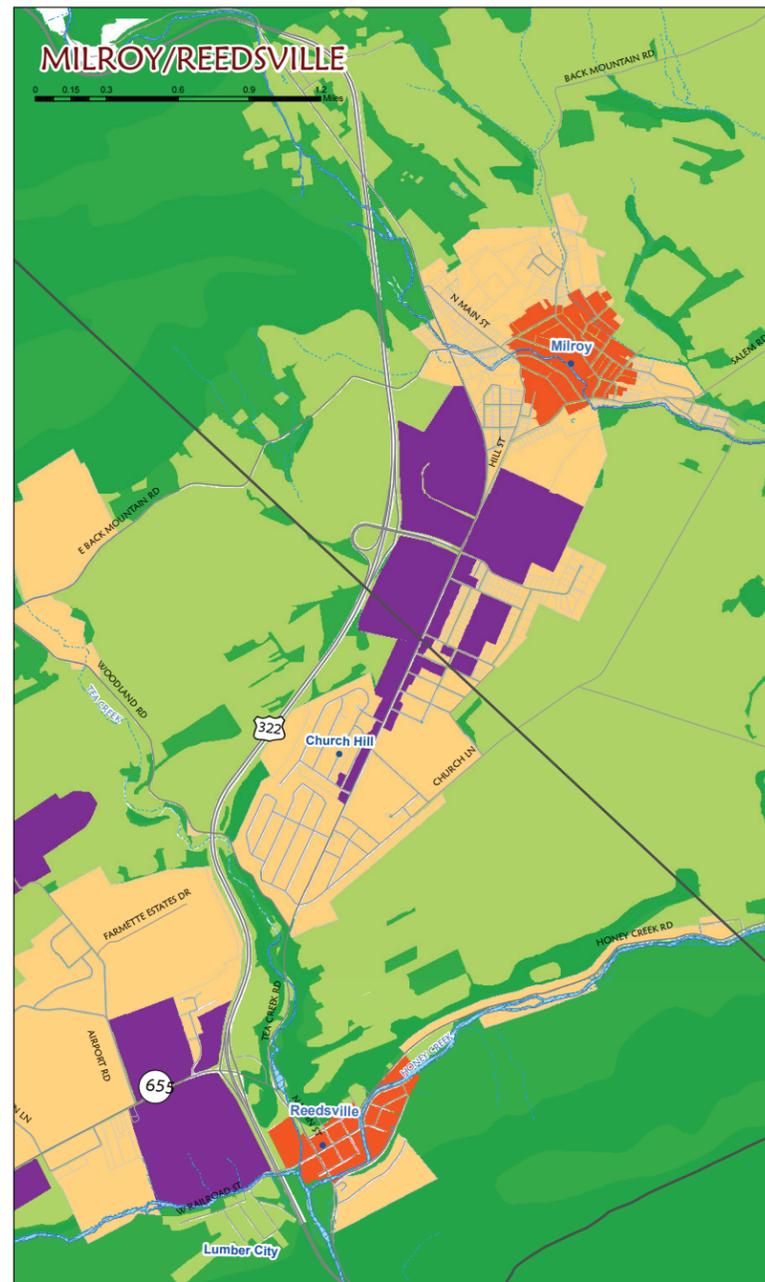
- Agricultural and Rural Development Area
- Natural Resource Area

FIGURE 12-2 FUTURE LAND USE MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

COMBINED DEVELOPMENT SUITABILITY
(INCLUDES POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT PRESSURE
AND NEGATIVE CONSERVATION CONSTRAINTS)

Prepared in cooperation by the Mifflin County GIS and
Planning Departments February, 2013.

- Legend**
- Planned Growth Areas**
- Urban Center
 - High Growth Commercial/Industrial Area (zoned and unzoned)
 - High Growth Residential Area (zoned and unzoned)
 - Limited Growth Area
 - Village Center
- Planned Conservation Areas**
- Agricultural and Rural Development Area
 - Natural Resource Area



into two subclassifications: the **Commercial/Industrial High Growth Areas** are those deemed suitable for industrial development by the Planning and Development Department’s suitability analysis; and the **Residential High Growth Areas** are the remaining lands.

The **Village Center** classification delineates incorporated and unincorporated areas of mixed residential, commercial, industrial and public uses. This classification includes Kistler, McVeytown, Newton-Hamilton, Belleville, Allensville, Granville, Milroy, and Reedsville. Some village centers have zoning and some do not. These areas can be a challenge to contemporary development practices, as lots are often small (less than one acre), making it difficult to meet setback requirements, and may not have water, sewer and stormwater utilities, thus requiring utility installation or extension to make new development marketable.

Limited Growth Areas are those portions of Mifflin County suitable for lower density residential, neighborhood-oriented retail and service centers, and small scale commercial and industrial establishments. Located along major transportation corridors, these areas already have good transportation access and existing commercial and residential uses totaling at least 10 acres. Lot sizes are at typically one acre or more and public water and/or sewer may be available. These areas allow for economic and community development in the rural areas of the county at lower densities than the village centers. Limited growth areas do not overlap with Agricultural Security Areas that are intended to promote permanent and viable farming operations over the long term.

FUTURE LAND USE IN PLANNED CONSERVATION AREAS

The **Agricultural and Rural Development Area** is one of two working lands classifications. This area is intended for agricultural, forest lands, natural resource production and other open space uses, as well as small scale commercial/industrial facilities supporting these uses, and very low density residential land uses (5 acres or more). Uses in this area are typically served by on-lot wells and septic systems. To avoid the negative impacts of sprawl, this area should not be served by public water, sewer, and stormwater utilities, except to correct extreme health hazards. However, it is the goal of the County to ensure this area has access to modern telecommunication services to facilitate rural business marketing and economic growth. This classification includes the Agricultural Security Areas designated by local municipalities.

New development in the planned conservation area cannot and should not be prohibited but it should be sensitive to the long-term health and availability of the resources it impacts.

If a landowner desires to develop his or her land more intensively and fund the extension of public utilities, the County and municipality should consider revising the Planned Conservation Area designation to Planning Growth Area to show consistency and support for the development proposal.

The **Natural Resource Conservation Area** designates those areas occupied by environmentally sensitive resources and therefore unsuitable for most development. These sensitive resources include steep sloped areas (i.e., > 15 percent), 100-year floodplains, wetlands, and surface and groundwater resources, as well as resource-based public lands.

LAND USE ACTION PLAN

The Land Use Action Plan restates the land use objectives and presents Action Strategies to address particular land use and development issues. Each action strategy is followed key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: Provide leadership and technical assistance to local municipalities in land use and development matters.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #1. Encourage planning that is current, locally relevant and consistent with county planning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Encourage municipalities to update their comprehensive plans, or to prepare multi-municipal comprehensive plans based on the planning regions, to maintain consistency between local and county planning efforts. Consideration should be given to incorporate Decatur Township into another planning region, such as the Northeast Region, or the McClure/Beaver Township area of Snyder County, where opportunities and constraints for development are

Planning tools from plans and ordinances to commissions and boards should be kept current with best development practices.

similar. Alternatively, encourage municipalities to adopt the County Comprehensive Plan by resolution.

2. Where multi-municipal plans are adopted, provide education and technical assistance to encourage establishment of a regional planning commission to implement and maintain the regional comprehensive plan.
3. Develop a model zoning ordinance applicable to those municipalities with outdated municipal zoning ordinances or without a municipal zoning ordinance. In advance of the model's preparation, conduct a workshop(s) with local officials to build their understanding of the purpose and benefits of municipal zoning and to ask them to identify their land use and development issues. With their input, review ordinances and model ordinances for rural communities prepared by other planning agencies, such as Huntingdon County, Adams County, Lycoming County, and Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry Counties). Compile various approaches to the land use needs and environmental protections identified by local leaders and meet again to discuss these options. Consider asking participating municipalities to contribute to the cost of the model ordinance.
4. Encourage better coordination by municipalities to resolve, minimize or mitigate incompatible land use patterns along municipal borders. Often, incompatible land use patterns, e.g. residential alongside industrial, have existed for many years without issue while the uses were small in scale and low in intensity. However, if one of the uses were to become larger or more intense, the incompatibility would be exacerbated. Municipalities should adopt provisions to remove or mitigate the incompatibility, such as requiring buffers or creating a "limited" version of the existing zoning district with intensity restrictions.
5. Encourage municipalities with zoning and/or subdivision and land development ordinances to complete a Growing Greener Ordinance Assessment. The assessment would review a municipality's zoning ordinance and/or subdivision and land development ordinance, identify weaknesses in resource conservation, and recommend amendments to strengthen provisions for resource protection of farmland soils, woodlands, steep slopes, etc.; buffering around wetlands and natural areas (sensitive wildlife habitats); and connectivity. The assessment gives guidance to improving an existing ordinance, rather than replacing it with a new (and possibly unfamiliar) one. The Natural Lands

Trust has led efforts to strengthen conservation through ordinances in Pennsylvania and can perform the assessment. Visit [www.natlands.org/growing greener](http://www.natlands.org/growing-greener) for more information.

6. Continue to offer contractual services to assist local municipalities in administering their land use regulations.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: CDBG, Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program

AS #2. Strengthen Mifflin County’s Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Amend the street system layout and design standards to require a subdivision or land development that abuts a substandard street or highway, per the ordinance’s cartway requirements, to construct improvements necessary to bring the street or highway into compliance with the ordinance’s cartway standards.
2. Review recent subdivision and land development applications for circumstances not addressed by the County’s SALDO and issues in procedures and administration. Consider new, clarified or enhanced design standards, as applicable, for:
 - a. Sidewalks, to strengthen Section 4.204A17 and 18, and Pedestrian Paths
 - b. Bicycle Paths and Bicycle Parking, e.g. bike racks
 - c. Alleys
 - d. Parking for Mixed Use Developments
 - e. Phased Development.
 - f. Phased Parking for Phased Developments
 - g. Curb and Gutter
 - h. Monuments and Markers
 - i. Fire Hydrants, specifically a requirement to have the applicant consult with the nearest fire company to determine the necessity for new hydrants and their placement.

- j. Signage, addressing type, size, illumination, quantities.
 - k. Standards for Special Developments, non-residential development, Homeowners' Association or condominium, campgrounds
 - l. Landscaping, Buffering and Screening
 - m. Intensive Agriculture
 - n. Open Space Residential Development, including modifications of existing standards in Chapter 10 or additional incentives to encourage this type of development.
3. Amend Mifflin County's existing Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to include provisions for dedicated public parkland, trail right-of-way, and/or open space when land is proposed for development. The requirement would be voluntary in most cases and mandatory only if and when a municipality has fulfilled the specified recreation planning requirements for its own jurisdiction, as outlined below. Minor subdivision/land developments may be excluded.

Section 503(11) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code provides specific and direct authority for a municipality to require a developer to dedicate land that is suitable for needed park and recreation purposes to the municipality for public use, or to require a fee in lieu of land dedication. The municipality must meet certain obligations. The land dedication requirement must:

- a. Not apply to any plans pending approval.
- b. Define the proportion of a development to be dedicated and the amount of any fee to be paid in lieu thereof.
- c. Apply only for the purpose of providing park or recreational facilities accessible to the development.
- d. Be based on a formally adopted recreation plan, which may include an adopted county recreation plan.
- e. Bear a reasonable relationship to recreational needs of future residents.
- f. Place any fee received in an interest-bearing account until expended to fund recreation facility construction costs.
- g. Provide for refund of unused funds within three years upon request.

- h. Be limited to these provisions.
4. Encourage municipalities that have a municipal subdivision and land development ordinance older than 2000 to update the ordinance. Options include:
 - identify gaps and weaknesses and borrow provisions from the County SALDO to bring the municipal ordinance up-to-date and into consistency.
 - use the County’s SALDO as a model for consistency and tailor its provisions to local needs.
 - adopt the County SALDO for greatest consistency.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County

Time Frame: 2014-2015

Funding Sources: CDBG, Municipal Assistance Program (MAP)

AS #3. Encourage municipalities to explore contemporary land use planning and community development tools through education and model zoning and subdivision and land development ordinance provisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sponsor seminars for local officials and planning commission members to promote understanding of the benefits of land use management and development techniques. The Governor’s Center for Local Services provides seminars as well as technical assistance for model ordinance development and refinement. It has also developed model regulations for modern uses, e.g. wireless telecommunication facilities. More information can be found on the PA Department of Community and Economic Development website, www.newpa.com, under the local government heading. The Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI) is another source of educational workshops. It is affiliated with Penn State. The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs provides support and the PA Chapter of the American Planning Association offers grant funding for courses and workshops.

2. Provide state, federal and non-profit guidance documents and model ordinances relevant to land use, land development and land conservation in Mifflin County, through links on the County Planning and Development Department webpage. Consider topics such as:

- Urban infill and redevelopment
- Urban mixed use development
- Conservation development (cluster subdivision, conservation subdivision, etc.)
- Affordable housing
- Agriculture
- Transportation (complete streets, and street connectivity)
- On-lot wells/on-lot disposal systems
- Wellhead protection. Such provisions would restrict potentially water-polluting land uses from locating in areas that drain toward public or community wellheads.
- Riparian and wetland buffers. Appropriate riparian buffer widths can vary widely based on stream and streamside conditions.
- Municipalities should consult the County Conservation District in establishing a minimum buffer width or appropriate formula to the waterbodies within their jurisdiction.
- Overlay zones. Overlay zones establish additional regulatory provisions without affecting the underlying zoning provisions. They can impose additional standards, revise permitted uses, or apply specific criteria to the designated area. They can be used to protect natural resources where they are present, or to increase development density where infrastructure is present or planned. The Mifflin County Stormwater Management Plan provides examples of overlays used to set a maximum impervious coverage, and to require a riparian buffer.)
- Management of commercial strip development and access (driveways) along streets and highways. At a minimum, establish standards for driveways and curb cuts along roads and streets, and regulate and enforce with driveway permits. Not all municipalities require driveway permits. However, driveway permits provide a key tool in promoting highway safety. More thorough access management would involve

Managing the number and location of driveways along busy streets and highways promotes travel safety.

corridor-specific analysis of land use and transportation patterns in an access management study for any of the County's major arterials, such as U.S. Route 22/522, 22/322 and 655, as discussed in Chapter 16, Transportation Plan and the transportation special studies. Information on access management techniques and regulatory tools is available in PennDOT's Access Management and Model Ordinance publication (PUB 574) and at www.accessmanagement.gov.

- Mandatory dedication of park and trail land. Here, the adoption of a statement of recreation needs or municipal recreation plan is necessary before establishing a mandatory parkland requirement. At minimum, the statement of need should acknowledge the municipality's population, its trends in recreation participation, its available parks and facilities, and the gap (or need) between available parks and facilities and residents' projected use of parks and facilities.
- Low impact development standards or performance standards to be considered by municipalities, especially those without zoning, for setbacks, lighting, noise, signs, lot coverage, street width, building design, parking, landscaping and buffering.
- Acquire flood-prone properties and return them to open space. The Mifflin County Hazard Mitigation Plan identified flooding as the number one hazard in the County. Removing development from the floodplain would remove the risk to life and property, the cost of emergency action, and the need for repeated assistance. In addition, a more open floodplain can more efficiently transfer floodwaters downstream or absorb them into the groundwater. Since recreational uses are generally abandoned during storm events and subsequent flooding, recreation may be an appropriate public use of some acquired properties. Each site should be evaluated for use as a public park and/or water access point.
- Encourage river corridor and riverfront planning. River corridor and riverfront planning are forms of land use planning. River corridor planning emphasizes the river and its dynamic functions. Riverfront planning emphasizes the river as a focal point for community and economic development, including recreation and trail facilities that spur local spending and provide destinations for visitors.

Model ordinances provide examples of best practice in regulation; however, they should be reviewed and adapted, not simply adopted.

- Explore special provisions to allow development in select flood-prone area. Some communities that were established in or near the floodplain allow development that is built to resist flood damage and that minimizes the downstream effects of structures in the floodplain. These provisions require special design and construction methods that are, of course, more costly than conventional construction. However, these communities have determined that their location along the waterways is integral to their community identity and character. If such provisions are deemed appropriate for portions of the County, strong administration and enforcement will be needed.

Riverfronts are an asset for recreation, tourism, and economic development.

Priority Level: Medium
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: County or Statewide ACT 31 Marcellus Shale Legacy Funds, Municipal Assistance Program (MAP), CDBG, APA/PA

AS #4. Assist in evaluating the impacts of proposed development on natural resources. (See also AS#2 of Chapter 15, Environmental Resources Plan)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide each municipality with a map illustrating the location of steep slopes (e.g., >15 percent), floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, and natural area inventory sites, and ridge tops with respect to its existing zoning districts and/or its existing land use pattern. (Same as Env. Res. Plan, AS#2, Recommendation 1.)
2. Encourage municipalities to contact the County Conservation District directly, when proposed development could impact natural resources. The staff can provide guidance on impact avoidance and mitigation to landowners, developers, or project managers during plan review or in advance of plan submission.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: 2014-2015
Funding Sources: Not applicable

PLANNED GROWTH AREA OBJECTIVE: Encourage infrastructure- and service-intensive land uses to use, reuse and redevelop sites in compatible patterns within planned growth areas. Planned growth areas include the following, as shown on the Future Land Use map:

- **Urban centers and villages** that serve as mixed use areas of concentrated commercial and industrial activity, employment opportunities, institutions, and residential uses.
- **Growth areas** that are designated as areas appropriate for medium and high density residential development or commercial and industrial uses as planned expansion of urban centers.
- **Limited growth areas** that promote low density residential opportunities and small-scale commercial uses with limited infrastructure and services in a planned neighborhood setting.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #5. Stimulate infill and redevelopment of urban centers and villages.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Using the County’s GIS capabilities, maintain a countywide inventory of development and redevelopment opportunity sites. Development Opportunity sites would be sites for first-time development. Redevelopment Opportunities would include formerly developed properties that are underutilized or vacant, including Brownfield sites. This list of sites should be developed with input from local municipalities and shared with local realtors to understand each site’s marketability. The list can then be prioritized based on each site’s level of economic benefit to the community. This task should involve the Planning and Development Department, the GIS Department, and the economic development players of the County, including but not limited to the Industrial Development Corporation.
2. Provide model provisions for the following topics:
 - Village districts that accommodate uses on historically small lots, small to zero setbacks, and with some infrastructure. The provisions of these districts should enable development to replace existing lot, street, and building patterns to maintain the community’s character as long as the patterns do not inhibit safe living environments.

Designation as a Keystone Community of PA reduces the hurdles to state assistance, by demonstrating a vision and ability to use funding effectively.

- Traditional Neighborhood Development or Traditional Neighborhood Design (TND). TND results in compact neighborhoods where home and at least some of daily and weekly destinations are close to home. They provide relatively dense, diverse housing types, a mix of commercial and civic uses, streets designed for motor vehicles as well as bicyclists and pedestrians, and pockets of open space. Quillas Creek, a proposed development project in Brown Township, is a TND.
3. Make and support improvements to the downtowns of urban centers and villages that will make these areas attractive locations for businesses and their customers. This recommendation supports the organization of downtown improvement committees, preparation of improvement plans and construction of individual projects – all of which may address land use as well as traffic, bicyclists/pedestrians, historic resources, etc. The County and the Borough of Lewistown should share their experiences with other communities interested in making similar downtown improvements. Other technical assistance can be found at the Pennsylvania Downtown Center, www.padowntown.org.
 4. Maintain a current database of state and federal assistance programs and funding sources related to infill and redevelopment.
 5. Provide grant writing assistance and grant administration services to municipalities to help them secure funding for downtown revitalization and improvement projects.

Traditional neighborhood developments like Quillas Creek offer housing choices connected to commercial services and civic uses by streets, sidewalks and bicycle lanes.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: CDBG, Growing Greener II, Keystone Communities, PennDOT/SEDA-COG MPO for transportation planning and improvements,

AS #6. Identify and Prioritize Sites for New Industrial/Commerce Parks (Similar to Economic Development Plan, AS#4 and could be implemented as one)

Industrial parks are currently near full capacity with no surrounding area available for expansion. The County should work with the MCIDC to identify new sites conducive to industrial and/or commerce parks that have ready access to rail freight and highway transportation services. An Industrial Site Suitability Map has been prepared and should guide further site investigation, planning and development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Industrial site expansion and development opportunities should be coordinated with the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority.

1. Ensure the list of Development and Redevelopment Opportunities noted under AS #5 includes a prioritized inventory of potential industrial properties to expand the County’s industrial space capacity and offerings. Ensure that all rail freight industrial site expansion and development opportunities are coordinated with the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority. Outreach to municipalities within the high growth area to solicit sites for the inventory.
2. Encourage those municipalities located within the high growth area to provide for adequate industrial/commercial development space within their municipalities. These efforts should be coordinated on a multi-municipal planning basis by Mifflin County and MCIDC.
3. Rank each site by the following criteria; rate each criterion on a scale of 1 (low) to 3 (high):
 - Availability
 - Developable acreage
 - Environmental constraints (e.g. known or suspected release of hazardous substances)
 - Access to roads/rail
 - Infrastructure (sewer, water, electric, broadband, etc.)
 - Compatibility with surrounding land uses
4. Select one or more of the highest ranking sties for development or further investment.
5. Seek funding to develop the priority sites into shovel-ready industrial and/or commerce parks with transportation, public water, and public sewer services.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: 2014-2015

Funding Sources: CDBG, H2O PA, Pennworks, PennVEST, Business in Our Sites Loans

AS #7. Encourage residential and mixed use development techniques appropriate for High or Limited Growth Areas.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Provide model provisions to encourage municipal ordinance updates for the following topics:

- Planned Residential Development (PRD). PRD provisions are designed to encourage innovation and variety in development, provide better opportunities for housing, recreation, and open space, and better relate development design to the particular site. They must establish standards for density or intensity of use; they may establish standards encouraging flexibility of housing densities, design, and types. The standards by which design, bulk, and location of buildings may be evaluated must be defined. Blossom Hill, a development project in Derry Township, is a PRD.
- Open Space, Conservation Design and/or Cluster Development techniques. Such development should result in a residential density no greater than that possible under conventional standards and that achieves valuable environmental objectives as stated in the Environmental Resources Plan. Some provisions for these techniques are already in the County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Other open space design principles published by the Natural Lands Trust and the American Planning Association should be consulted.

Blossom Hill, a planned residential development, offers housing choice in a recreational and open space setting that highlights the site's natural features.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Not applicable

AS #8. Enable desired land use patterns with appropriate transportation and infrastructure maintenance and improvements.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Support maintenance, improvement, and extension of transportation and infrastructure systems, such as public water or sewer utilities, within planned growth areas.
2. Discourage the provision or extension of public water, sewer and stormwater utilities and new highway construction into planned conservation areas.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Not applicable

PLANNED CONSERVATION AREA OBJECTIVE: Conserve, steward and wisely use the rural landscape as planned conservation areas for resource-dependent land uses. Planned conservation areas include:

- Agricultural and Rural Development Areas that support agriculture, forestry, mineral extraction and resource-based recreation and tourism uses, as well as low density residential uses.
- Natural Resource Conservation Areas that conserve sensitive natural resources for their valued ecological functions and protect them from most development and its impacts.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #9. Maintain and enhance agriculture. (from Greenways Plan, 2010, Recommendation 1.2)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide education to municipal officials on land use planning and its benefits relative to agricultural preservation and sustaining agricultural based businesses. Share model ordinance provisions that support agricultural activities. Work in collaboration with the Conservation District and Penn State Cooperative Extension.
2. Provide outreach and education for municipal officials and landowners about the benefits and restrictions of the Agricultural Security Area program and Agricultural Conservation Easement program. Work in collaboration with the Conservation District.

3. Support and, when possible, strengthen the farmland preservation program. Advocate for additional funding from the Commonwealth for the Agricultural Conservation Easement program with the goal of doubling the acreage preserved from the typical 80-120 acres per County per year to at least 250 acres annually in each County. Work with the County Conservation District, the Penn State Cooperative Extension, PASA (Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture), state representatives, and others to make the case for additional funding through presentation of research-based information. Define the financial benefits of redirecting funding for conservation easements from areas under development pressures to rural areas. Promote the benefits of preserving large areas of currently productive farmland.
4. Encourage municipalities to list new and emerging types of niche type of farming, such as organics, specialty crops, community-supported agriculture, farm to table programs, and others, as permitted uses.

Priority Level: Low
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: Various Public and Private Conservation Organizations

AS #10. Increase participation in land conservation programs.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Work with the Conservation District to support special techniques such as effective agricultural zoning, agricultural security areas, purchase of agricultural easements, and Clean and Green tax relief program (Act 156, as amended) in areas where farming is the recommended land use. Develop outreach efforts targeted specifically to the County’s farming community.
2. Work with the Conservation District and other conservation partners to conduct outreach programs about the methods and benefits of conservation in Mifflin County. Consider the philosophy that everyone in Mifflin County is a land steward. Share information about 1) how landowners can pursue conservation of their property and the tax benefit and estate planning options and benefits and 2) local and regional land trusts

Land conservation of farmland and forest land protects water supply, water quality, air quality and wildlife populations.

and land conservation organizations and their programs, particularly once a local organization is established.

3. Explore the establishment of a land trust or conservancy to serve Mifflin County. A land trust or conservancy would own, monitor and enforce conservation easements on properties and possible on building facades or other specific features.
4. Seek conservation easements for the protection of natural resources on lands vulnerable to development. Promote conservation strategies and initiatives that reduce fragmentation of resources, protect vegetative cover of ridgelines and riparian corridors, protect scenic areas, and control invasive species.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Various Public and Private Conservation Organizations

AS #11. Manage natural resource production operations (i.e., agriculture, forestry, gas and mineral extraction, etc.) while minimizing the negative impacts to the local communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Protect natural resource production areas from encroachment by land uses that would be incompatible with their continued operation or future expansion.
2. Ensure a sufficient buffer zone between residential and natural resource production uses is considered in the review process where appropriate.
3. Limit or manage the movement of gas and mineral extraction vehicles through residential neighborhoods, commercial areas or tourism attractions.
4. Require traffic impact studies and reasonable improvements associated with new or expanding resource production operations.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: CDBG

**AS #12. Preserve large interconnected areas of significant open space.
(from Greenways Plan, 2010, Recommendation 1.1 and 1.3)**

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Support conservation of the open space and conservation area priorities listed in the Greenways Plan (and illustrated on the plan’s map 28).
 - a. Blue and Shade Mountains – along southern County boundary at Lewistown Narrows
 - b. Jacks Mountain
 - c. Stone, Long, Strong, and Thick Mountains
 - d. Juniata River Corridor
 - e. Lingle Creek – west of Mount Pleasant
 - f. Ferguson Valley – toe of Jacks Mtn. in Oliver Township
 - g. Toe Slope of Jack’s Mountain in eastern Decatur Township
2. Provide technical assistance from the County planning department, conservation district, and agricultural preservation program to conservation initiatives.
3. Develop partnerships with other conservation-purposed organizations working in Mifflin County.
4. Develop a formal strategic conservation outreach programs for municipalities and for landowners and citizens. Apply for a grant(s) for funding for this program and work in partnership with conservation organizations to leverage resources.

Promote open space conservation through programs that emphasize environmental stewardship and financial return.

Promote tax measures and planning tools that municipalities can use to acquire land with public access or preserve land as open space, such as the Realty Transfer Tax, a portion of the Earned Income Tax, funds from the property tax either apportioned or dedicated, and planning tools such as Conservation by Design, transfer of development rights, and official maps to preserve land. Any promotion of these methods should be supported by examples of how they have been successful in other communities. *Opportunity Knocks - Open Space is a Community Investment*, published by the Heritage Conservancy in 2008, lists municipalities that have enacted earned income, real estate and realty transfer tax allocations for open space protection.

5. Encourage local planning efforts to identify connected land areas to be conserved and strategies to do so.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program

AS #13. Encourage appropriate tools for the protection of sensitive environmental resources while encouraging compatible economic development in planned conservation areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue support for the agricultural preservation program.
2. Provide model provisions for the following topics:
 - Steep Slope Protection
 - Scenic ridgeline protection
 - Energy generation facilities, e.g. wind and solar farms
 - Groundwater protection, e.g. prohibition of the construction of lagoons in groundwater recharge areas, over limestone formations, and in areas where the water table is within four feet of the bottom of the liner in accordance with the PA Nutrient Management Act.
3. Partner with conservancies and state agencies to seek conservation easements on vulnerable lands for the protection of natural resources.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County

Time Frame: 2016-2017

Funding Sources: Not applicable



CHAPTER 13

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND UTILITIES PLAN

INTENT

Community facilities, services and utility systems are critical and permanent elements of Mifflin County's growth, development and economic activity. Community facilities and services, such as fire and police protection, schools, park and recreation facilities, libraries and hospitals, provide core health, safety and welfare benefits to the community's overall health and vitality. Dense residential and economic development patterns, in particular, are highly dependent upon utility systems that provide water and sewerage, power and heat, and communication.

The type, level and quality of each service have a significant impact on the quality of life and the potential for future community and/or economic development. While portions of Mifflin County are currently provided with these services and utilities, other areas are lacking by choice or by challenges that inhibit their provision.

The intent of the Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan is to guide the provision of adequate facilities and services by the public and private sectors in a manner consistent with the development patterns reflected by the General Land Use Plan. The objectives under each goal address each of the major service types: public safety, education, health care, solid waste, public water and sewer, stormwater management, and communications heating utilities.

The components of this Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan include:

- Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Goal and Objectives
- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Action Plan

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND UTILITIES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one goal and nine supporting objectives for specific facility, service and utility areas:

GOAL:

To provide adequate infrastructure, and community facilities and services to meet the service demands required by existing and future development, as indicated by the Land Use Plan.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide efficient and effective emergency services, including prevention and response to public safety, fire, medical, hazardous materials, and natural disaster emergencies.
2. Support high quality educational facilities and services for children, youth and the workforce.
3. Ensure the adequate provision of library facilities and information resources to meet the contemporary needs of citizens.
4. Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of wastewater and sewage collection systems to serve existing and planned development.
5. Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of public drinking water supply systems to serve existing and planned development.
6. Advocate effective stormwater management planning and practices to manage the volume and rate of stormwater runoff generated by development and to prevent the degradation of surface water and groundwater quality, as well as to minimize and mitigate flooding hazards.
7. Provide effective solid waste management services.

8. Promote the expansion of telecommunication, gas, and electrical services and the compatible integration of such utilities into new and existing communities to support planned economic development and enhance public safety.
9. Provide regional county parks and trails and encourage municipalities to provide local parks and recreation facilities to meet residents varied recreational needs.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan supports the Housing Plan and Land Use Plan with recommendations for up-to-date planning and for maintenance and expansion of infrastructure and services in the planned growth areas, where the majority of homes are located, and maintaining services in planned conservation areas, where intensive development is discouraged.

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan supports the Economic Development Plan with recommendations to extend public and private utilities to new sites designated for business and industry and to expand recreation amenities that will help to retain and attract businesses.

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations to develop parks, trails, and greenways that highlight for historic features.

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending the expansion of trails for non-motorized travel and the expansion of telecommunications and data networks that could reduce traffic on the road network.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND UTILITIES ACTION PLAN

Action strategies (AS) and implementation tools have been developed to demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

EMERGENCY SERVICES OBJECTIVE:

Provide efficient and effective emergency services, including prevention and response to public safety, fire, medical, hazardous materials, and natural disaster emergencies.

AS #1. Support the efforts of Mifflin County's volunteer emergency service organizations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Encourage volunteerism through public service announcements, volunteer recognition programs and other means. Consider developing a promotional video and/or brochure targeted at the area's younger populations to foster participation.
2. Encourage municipalities to continue support for local volunteer fire companies through contributions from the general fund or a municipal fire tax. All 16 municipalities currently contribute in one of these ways. Reliable financial support, large or small, provides financial stability for these non-profit community services organizations.
3. Maximize the use of the various funding programs administered by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to provide adequate equipment, supplies, and training to all County and local volunteer organizations, and to assist in the development of comprehensive disaster preparedness and assistance plans, programs, capabilities, and organizations.
4. Maximize the use of the Public Safety Emergency Telephone Act (Act 78) funds to ensure the County's central dispatch system is maintained and upgraded, as needed, to ensure optimum communication performance.
5. Consider allocating a portion of the County's Act 78 funds to prepare public education programs on fire safety in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. Such programs may also be used as an opportunity to solicit volunteer and monetary support for local volunteer emergency services.
6. Support efforts to consolidate local resources to maximize the efficiency and responsiveness of local emergency services.

7. Encourage local municipalities and volunteer fire service agencies operating outside public water service areas to implement dry hydrant systems.
8. Encourage local legislators to support increased funding assistance to local volunteer emergency service agencies.

Wayne Township implemented 9 dry hydrant systems to increase the adequacy of fire suppression water supplies.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Municipal Assistance Program, PEMA

AS #2. Maximize the use of federal, state and other policing resources to strengthen rural policing strategies and to promote community safety.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Encourage local and state police officials to seek technical assistance, training, and funding for issues of community concerns. The Pennsylvania State Police, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (www.ojp.usdoj.gov), and The Penn State Justice and Safety Institute (JASI, <http://www.jasi.outreach.psu.edu>) are potential resources for programs, and research on law enforcement and victim assistance in small town and rural communities.
2. Support initiatives to expand local police services through municipal departments, service by contract with another municipal department or regional police agencies. All three are accepted means of providing local police service and each offers certain benefits. Independent departments offer the greatest local control over the use of funding and other resources. Service by contract allows a municipality to purchase the exact services it needs. Regional agencies can reduce costs, increase uniformity and consistency of law enforcement across a region, offer better training, increase career enhancement opportunities for police officers, provide better police management and supervision, and improve in police personnel distribution and deployment.¹

¹ Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. (2011) Regional Police Services in Pennsylvania: A Manual for Local Government Officials (10th Ed.). Harrisburg, PA: Governor's Center for Local Government Services.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Municipal Assistance Program

AS #3. Implement the Mifflin County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. On an ongoing basis, reinforce the hazard mitigation plan's High Priority Action Items:

Action 2.2.1 - Continue to encourage the review of planned infrastructure to ensure that it will be developed outside of hazard-prone areas.

Action 2.1.2 – Encourage, and enforce as necessary, the requirement of special use permits for hazard-prone areas.

Action 3.5.2 - Continue to work with municipalities to identify and incorporate hazard mitigation project opportunities to include in the 5 year update of the HMP.

2. Commit resources to undertake medium priority action items over the life cycle of the plan. Undertake low priority action items as resources are available or as conditions warrant reassignment to a medium or high priority action item.
3. Encourage municipalities to participate in the FEMA's Community Rating System to benefit residents with lower flood insurance rates. Consider shared services among participating municipalities, particularly in the administration and record keeping required.
3. Annually review and evaluate the HMP.
4. Update the HMP within five years of its adoption.

See also Stormwater Management Action Strategy on page 13-12.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: CDBG, other sources relevant to specific hazards

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Support high quality educational facilities and services for children, youth and the workforce.

AS #4. Support the school districts serving Mifflin County with advocacy and infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Facilitate the submission of approved land development plans, information specifically plans for 25 dwelling units or more, to the respective school district.
2. Partner with the school districts in pursuit of expanded broadband infrastructure.
3. Partner with the Mifflin County and Mount Union School Districts in requests for appropriate funding at the state and federal legislative levels.
4. Facilitate dialogue among the school districts and regional businesses regarding the region's highest employment and job security opportunities. Encourage the school districts to adjust curriculum and standards to ensure students are prepared to enter these job markets.
5. Improve coordination and communication between the school district and the community when school closures are proposed.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: None at this time

AS #5. Support efforts to expand educational opportunities for adults.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Appoint/Continue appointments of a Mifflin County government liaison to the various education-based organizations, such as the Mifflin County Education and Scholarship Foundation, and the Penn State Center for Outreach and Cooperative Extension. Each liaison could help identify County-based assistance and coordination for these organizations.

2. Support efforts by the school districts, the Career and Technology Centers, Downtown Lewistown, Inc., and the local business community to facilitate the development of vocational and technical education programs. See also Chapter 11 Economic Development Plan.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Not Applicable

AS #6. Promote the understanding of community planning and participation in public education and public involvement activities.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Sponsor, host, and/or organize educational programs at the middle school and high school levels to emphasize how residents' decisions have an impact on the County's natural and social environments, including its overall quality of life. Consider programs and resources developed by developed by the American Planning Association (www.planning.org), the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, Penn State Cooperative Extension and Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute, and the National 4-H Council (www.fourhcouncil.edu).

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: APA/PA Central Section mini-grants for education, PA DCED

LIBRARY FACILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Ensure the adequate provision of library facilities and information resources to meet the contemporary needs of citizens.

AS #7. Sustain library services; improve the technology capabilities of Mifflin County's libraries and schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sustain the Mifflin County Library System through continued financial support.
2. Support efforts to provide library and information services to communities without branch libraries.
3. Support special initiatives to improve data and communications technology (hardware, software, and services) and e-resources available at library facilities.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: None at this time

WASTEWATER OBJECTIVE:

Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of wastewater and sewage collection systems to serve existing and planned development.

WATER SUPPLY OBJECTIVE:

Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of public drinking water supply systems to serve existing and planned development.

AS #8. Support local efforts to improve existing water and sewer facilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update the Mifflin County Sewer Plan to support regionalization of sewer systems, where desired by local officials.
2. Assist municipalities in actively seeking grants and other funding sources to provide adequate public water and sewer service to existing urban and suburban areas and planned growth areas.
3. Collaborate with municipal officials and authorities to ensure water and sewer facility extensions and upgrades are consistent with the Future Land Use Plan. For example, urban and suburban levels of development should be located where public sewer and water facilities can adequately support additional growth, either at present or through limited expansion and upgrading, and as consistent with the High and Limited Growth Areas described in the Future Land Use Plan.
4. Assist and encourage local municipalities without an Act 537 Plan, or which have not updated their plan within the past 10 years, to develop or update their plans. Collaborate with municipal officials and authorities to ensure that planned service areas are consistent with the Future Land Use Plan.
5. Consider preparing brochures concerning on-lot sewage system maintenance and other sewage disposal issues.
6. Consider holding seminars for municipal officials, citizens, realtors, developers, and other constituents regarding sewage facilities planning. Include mention of PENNVEST and other funding for plan implementation.
7. Maintain a list of municipal sewage enforcement officers and establish an open dialogue with the SEOs to identify problems and maintain a summary status of each Act 537 Plan's implementation. Also, continue to maintain an open dialogue with sewer and water authority officials and offer assistance when necessary.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: H2O PA, PENNVEST, Pennworks

AS #9. Support the implementation of the Mifflin County Water Supply Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

4. Discourage the establishment of new small water systems.
5. Encourage existing small water systems to create and maintain financial records including annual budget, revenue and expenses.
6. Encourage small water systems to identify, evaluate and implement cooperative/restructuring solutions to water service needs when possible; this could include service agreements and satellite operations for Lewistown-Forest Hills and Lewistown-North Hills.
7. Maintain a countywide Water Advisory Committee to identify, monitor, evaluate, encourage, facilitate, etc. water service solutions that are in the public interest.
8. Encourage small water systems to take advantage of PADEP programs including the Monitoring Reimbursement Program, Small Water Systems Regionalization Grant Program, Formation of Water Authorities Program, Small Water System Consolidation Construction Grant Program and Water and Waste Water Assistance and Outreach Program.
9. Assist municipalities and other small water systems in acquiring for funding for improvements. Support applications to the County CDBG program for such improvements. Also consider a “block grant” application to state funding programs, i.e. one funding request for improvements across multiple systems. An intergovernmental agreement for the single funding application would demonstrate regional cooperation in addition to the water supply plan itself.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: H2O PA, PENNVEST, Pennworks

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:

Advocate effective stormwater management planning and practices to manage the volume and rate of stormwater runoff generated by development and to prevent the degradation of surface water and groundwater quality, as well as to minimize and mitigate flooding hazards.

AS #10. Ensure countywide support for stormwater management.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to encourage local municipalities to adopt the Mifflin County stormwater management ordinance. Determine what hesitation the remaining municipalities have toward adopting the ordinance and evaluate if these obstacles can be overcome by modification of the ordinance, County assistance in administering the ordinance, or other means.
2. Sponsor, host and/or organize a stormwater management training program in Mifflin County for municipal officials, municipal public works/highway department personnel, builders and developers.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: CDBG

SOLID WASTE SERVICES OBJECTIVE:

Provide effective solid waste management services.

AS #11. Implement the Mifflin County Solid Waste Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recycling

1. Evaluate drop-off program options.
2. Development of more commercial/industrial collection programs.
3. Identify additional recycling markets through investigation.
4. Develop drop-off sites or agreements for use of sites when feasible.
5. Promote municipal drop-off programs.

Trash Collection

6. Evaluate costs and feasibility of a County-wide bid for trash collection service that may include recyclables collection; evaluate same for a municipal or joint-municipal bid for trash collection service that may include recyclables collection.

Other

7. Continue existing yard waste composting programs and expand as feasible.
8. Establish a program to enhance the annual reporting of recyclables collected (types, quantities, and sources).
9. Support PA Cleanways of Mifflin County in its efforts to cleanup illegal dumps sites.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, such as PA Cleanways

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Solid Waste and Recycling Grants

UTILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Promote the expansion of telecommunication, gas, and electrical services and the compatible integration of such utilities into new and existing commercial, industrial, and residential communities to support planned economic development and enhance public safety.

AS #12. Encourage private utility companies to provide adequate gas, electricity, and telecommunication services to the County's residential and business community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ensure local utility representatives have an understanding of the County's designated growth areas. The goal is to keep utility providers knowledgeable of future growth patterns to ensure services are meeting the County's development demands.
2. Maintain GIS data of the County's utility service areas, such as natural gas.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Not applicable

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Provide regional county parks and trails and encourage municipalities to provide local parks and recreation facilities to meet residents varied recreational needs.

AS #13. Implement the Juniata/Mifflin County Greenways, Open Space, and Rural Recreation Plan.

1. Coordinate the development of recreational facilities through Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council and local and non-profit organizations.
2. Continue to support pilot projects, including a boat launch on the Juniata River between the Newton Hamilton and Granville accesses, a dog park in Derry Township, sustainability for the all-volunteer playground program, and programs for tweens. Publicize the opening/dedication and future successes, large and small, to encourage continued support for public investments in recreation.

3. Support additional implementation of the plan, where there is public support and willing partners. Example projects and priorities include:
 - Three regional parks and more municipal parks, e.g. Fort Granville Heritage Park in Granville Township.
 - Development of the Juniata River Water Trail.
 - Extension of the Main Line Canal Greenway and natural creek- and ridge-based conservation greenways.
 - Programs and awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities for people ages 18 to 45.
 - Programs that create active healthy life styles and family connections. Move from sports and summer activities into year round opportunities in music, arts, and social activity.
 - An environmental education system.
4. Amend the County's subdivision and land development ordinance to include regulations for the provision of common open space and recreational facilities. The amendment should provide for a mandatory park, trail or open space requirement for conventional residential developments, as well as mobile home and manufactured home park developments.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program, CDBG, County and Statewide Act 13 funds

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CHAPTER 13

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND UTILITIES PLAN

INTENT

Community facilities, services and utility systems are critical and permanent elements of Mifflin County's growth, development and economic activity. Community facilities and services, such as fire and police protection, schools, park and recreation facilities, libraries and hospitals, provide core health, safety and welfare benefits to the community's overall health and vitality. Dense residential and economic development patterns, in particular, are highly dependent upon utility systems that provide water and sewerage, power and heat, and communication.

The type, level and quality of each service have a significant impact on the quality of life and the potential for future community and/or economic development. While portions of Mifflin County are currently provided with these services and utilities, other areas are lacking by choice or by challenges that inhibit their provision.

The intent of the Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan is to guide the provision of adequate facilities and services by the public and private sectors in a manner consistent with the development patterns reflected by the General Land Use Plan. The objectives under each goal address each of the major service types: public safety, education, health care, solid waste, public water and sewer, stormwater management, and communications heating utilities.

The components of this Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan include:

- Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Goal and Objectives
- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Action Plan

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND UTILITIES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one goal and nine supporting objectives for specific facility, service and utility areas:

GOAL:

To provide adequate infrastructure, and community facilities and services to meet the service demands required by existing and future development, as indicated by the Land Use Plan.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide efficient and effective emergency services, including prevention and response to public safety, fire, medical, hazardous materials, and natural disaster emergencies.
2. Support high quality educational facilities and services for children, youth and the workforce.
3. Ensure the adequate provision of library facilities and information resources to meet the contemporary needs of citizens.
4. Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of wastewater and sewage collection systems to serve existing and planned development.
5. Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of public drinking water supply systems to serve existing and planned development.
6. Advocate effective stormwater management planning and practices to manage the volume and rate of stormwater runoff generated by development and to prevent the degradation of surface water and groundwater quality, as well as to minimize and mitigate flooding hazards.
7. Provide effective solid waste management services.

8. Promote the expansion of telecommunication, gas, and electrical services and the compatible integration of such utilities into new and existing communities to support planned economic development and enhance public safety.
9. Provide regional county parks and trails and encourage municipalities to provide local parks and recreation facilities to meet residents varied recreational needs.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan supports the Housing Plan and Land Use Plan with recommendations for up-to-date planning and for maintenance and expansion of infrastructure and services in the planned growth areas, where the majority of homes are located, and maintaining services in planned conservation areas, where intensive development is discouraged.

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan supports the Economic Development Plan with recommendations to extend public and private utilities to new sites designated for business and industry and to expand recreation amenities that will help to retain and attract businesses.

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations to develop parks, trails, and greenways that highlight for historic features.

The Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending the expansion of trails for non-motorized travel and the expansion of telecommunications and data networks that could reduce traffic on the road network.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND UTILITIES ACTION PLAN

Action strategies (AS) and implementation tools have been developed to demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

EMERGENCY SERVICES OBJECTIVE:

Provide efficient and effective emergency services, including prevention and response to public safety, fire, medical, hazardous materials, and natural disaster emergencies.

AS #1. Support the efforts of Mifflin County's volunteer emergency service organizations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Encourage volunteerism through public service announcements, volunteer recognition programs and other means. Consider developing a promotional video and/or brochure targeted at the area's younger populations to foster participation.
2. Encourage municipalities to continue support for local volunteer fire companies through contributions from the general fund or a municipal fire tax. All 16 municipalities currently contribute in one of these ways. Reliable financial support, large or small, provides financial stability for these non-profit community services organizations.
3. Maximize the use of the various funding programs administered by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to provide adequate equipment, supplies, and training to all County and local volunteer organizations, and to assist in the development of comprehensive disaster preparedness and assistance plans, programs, capabilities, and organizations.
4. Maximize the use of the Public Safety Emergency Telephone Act (Act 78) funds to ensure the County's central dispatch system is maintained and upgraded, as needed, to ensure optimum communication performance.
5. Consider allocating a portion of the County's Act 78 funds to prepare public education programs on fire safety in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. Such programs may also be used as an opportunity to solicit volunteer and monetary support for local volunteer emergency services.
6. Support efforts to consolidate local resources to maximize the efficiency and responsiveness of local emergency services.

7. Encourage local municipalities and volunteer fire service agencies operating outside public water service areas to implement dry hydrant systems.
8. Encourage local legislators to support increased funding assistance to local volunteer emergency service agencies.

Wayne Township implemented 9 dry hydrant systems to increase the adequacy of fire suppression water supplies.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Municipal Assistance Program, PEMA

AS #2. Maximize the use of federal, state and other policing resources to strengthen rural policing strategies and to promote community safety.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Encourage local and state police officials to seek technical assistance, training, and funding for issues of community concerns. The Pennsylvania State Police, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (www.ojp.usdoj.gov), and The Penn State Justice and Safety Institute (JASI, <http://www.jasi.outreach.psu.edu>) are potential resources for programs, and research on law enforcement and victim assistance in small town and rural communities.
2. Support initiatives to expand local police services through municipal departments, service by contract with another municipal department or regional police agencies. All three are accepted means of providing local police service and each offers certain benefits. Independent departments offer the greatest local control over the use of funding and other resources. Service by contract allows a municipality to purchase the exact services it needs. Regional agencies can reduce costs, increase uniformity and consistency of law enforcement across a region, offer better training, increase career enhancement opportunities for police officers, provide better police management and supervision, and improve in police personnel distribution and deployment.¹

¹ Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. (2011) Regional Police Services in Pennsylvania: A Manual for Local Government Officials (10th Ed.). Harrisburg, PA: Governor's Center for Local Government Services.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Municipal Assistance Program

AS #3. Implement the Mifflin County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. On an ongoing basis, reinforce the hazard mitigation plan's High Priority Action Items:

Action 2.2.1 - Continue to encourage the review of planned infrastructure to ensure that it will be developed outside of hazard-prone areas.

Action 2.1.2 – Encourage, and enforce as necessary, the requirement of special use permits for hazard-prone areas.

Action 3.5.2 - Continue to work with municipalities to identify and incorporate hazard mitigation project opportunities to include in the 5 year update of the HMP.

2. Commit resources to undertake medium priority action items over the life cycle of the plan. Undertake low priority action items as resources are available or as conditions warrant reassignment to a medium or high priority action item.
3. Encourage municipalities to participate in the FEMA's Community Rating System to benefit residents with lower flood insurance rates. Consider shared services among participating municipalities, particularly in the administration and record keeping required.
3. Annually review and evaluate the HMP.
4. Update the HMP within five years of its adoption.

See also Stormwater Management Action Strategy on page 13-12.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: CDBG, other sources relevant to specific hazards

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Support high quality educational facilities and services for children, youth and the workforce.

AS #4. Support the school districts serving Mifflin County with advocacy and infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Facilitate the submission of approved land development plans, information specifically plans for 25 dwelling units or more, to the respective school district.
2. Partner with the school districts in pursuit of expanded broadband infrastructure.
3. Partner with the Mifflin County and Mount Union School Districts in requests for appropriate funding at the state and federal legislative levels.
4. Facilitate dialogue among the school districts and regional businesses regarding the region's highest employment and job security opportunities. Encourage the school districts to adjust curriculum and standards to ensure students are prepared to enter these job markets.
5. Improve coordination and communication between the school district and the community when school closures are proposed.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: None at this time

AS #5. Support efforts to expand educational opportunities for adults.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Appoint/Continue appointments of a Mifflin County government liaison to the various education-based organizations, such as the Mifflin County Education and Scholarship Foundation, and the Penn State Center for Outreach and Cooperative Extension. Each liaison could help identify County-based assistance and coordination for these organizations.

- 2. Support efforts by the school districts, the Career and Technology Centers, Downtown Lewistown, Inc., and the local business community to facilitate the development of vocational and technical education programs. See also Chapter 11 Economic Development Plan.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: Not Applicable

AS #6. Promote the understanding of community planning and participation in public education and public involvement activities.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. Sponsor, host, and/or organize educational programs at the middle school and high school levels to emphasize how residents’ decisions have an impact on the County’s natural and social environments, including its overall quality of life. Consider programs and resources developed by developed by the American Planning Association (www.planning.org), the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, Penn State Cooperative Extension and Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute, and the National 4-H Council (www.fourhcouncil.edu).

Priority Level: Moderate
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: APA/PA Central Section mini-grants for education, PA DCED

LIBRARY FACILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Ensure the adequate provision of library facilities and information resources to meet the contemporary needs of citizens.

AS #7. Sustain library services; improve the technology capabilities of Mifflin County's libraries and schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sustain the Mifflin County Library System through continued financial support.
2. Support efforts to provide library and information services to communities without branch libraries.
3. Support special initiatives to improve data and communications technology (hardware, software, and services) and e-resources available at library facilities.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: None at this time

WASTEWATER OBJECTIVE:

Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of wastewater and sewage collection systems to serve existing and planned development.

WATER SUPPLY OBJECTIVE:

Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of public drinking water supply systems to serve existing and planned development.

AS #8. Support local efforts to improve existing water and sewer facilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update the Mifflin County Sewer Plan to support regionalization of sewer systems, where desired by local officials.
2. Assist municipalities in actively seeking grants and other funding sources to provide adequate public water and sewer service to existing urban and suburban areas and planned growth areas.
3. Collaborate with municipal officials and authorities to ensure water and sewer facility extensions and upgrades are consistent with the Future Land Use Plan. For example, urban and suburban levels of development should be located where public sewer and water facilities can adequately support additional growth, either at present or through limited expansion and upgrading, and as consistent with the High and Limited Growth Areas described in the Future Land Use Plan.
4. Assist and encourage local municipalities without an Act 537 Plan, or which have not updated their plan within the past 10 years, to develop or update their plans. Collaborate with municipal officials and authorities to ensure that planned service areas are consistent with the Future Land Use Plan.
5. Consider preparing brochures concerning on-lot sewage system maintenance and other sewage disposal issues.
6. Consider holding seminars for municipal officials, citizens, realtors, developers, and other constituents regarding sewage facilities planning. Include mention of PENNVEST and other funding for plan implementation.
7. Maintain a list of municipal sewage enforcement officers and establish an open dialogue with the SEOs to identify problems and maintain a summary status of each Act 537 Plan's implementation. Also, continue to maintain an open dialogue with sewer and water authority officials and offer assistance when necessary.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: H2O PA, PENNVEST, Pennworks

AS #9. Support the implementation of the Mifflin County Water Supply Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

4. Discourage the establishment of new small water systems.
5. Encourage existing small water systems to create and maintain financial records including annual budget, revenue and expenses.
6. Encourage small water systems to identify, evaluate and implement cooperative/restructuring solutions to water service needs when possible; this could include service agreements and satellite operations for Lewistown-Forest Hills and Lewistown-North Hills.
7. Maintain a countywide Water Advisory Committee to identify, monitor, evaluate, encourage, facilitate, etc. water service solutions that are in the public interest.
8. Encourage small water systems to take advantage of PADEP programs including the Monitoring Reimbursement Program, Small Water Systems Regionalization Grant Program, Formation of Water Authorities Program, Small Water System Consolidation Construction Grant Program and Water and Waste Water Assistance and Outreach Program.
9. Assist municipalities and other small water systems in acquiring for funding for improvements. Support applications to the County CDBG program for such improvements. Also consider a “block grant” application to state funding programs, i.e. one funding request for improvements across multiple systems. An intergovernmental agreement for the single funding application would demonstrate regional cooperation in addition to the water supply plan itself.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: H2O PA, PENNVEST, Pennworks

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:

Advocate effective stormwater management planning and practices to manage the volume and rate of stormwater runoff generated by development and to prevent the degradation of surface water and groundwater quality, as well as to minimize and mitigate flooding hazards.

AS #10. Ensure countywide support for stormwater management.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to encourage local municipalities to adopt the Mifflin County stormwater management ordinance. Determine what hesitation the remaining municipalities have toward adopting the ordinance and evaluate if these obstacles can be overcome by modification of the ordinance, County assistance in administering the ordinance, or other means.
2. Sponsor, host and/or organize a stormwater management training program in Mifflin County for municipal officials, municipal public works/highway department personnel, builders and developers.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: CDBG

SOLID WASTE SERVICES OBJECTIVE:

Provide effective solid waste management services.

AS #11. Implement the Mifflin County Solid Waste Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recycling

1. Evaluate drop-off program options.
2. Development of more commercial/industrial collection programs.
3. Identify additional recycling markets through investigation.
4. Develop drop-off sites or agreements for use of sites when feasible.
5. Promote municipal drop-off programs.

Trash Collection

6. Evaluate costs and feasibility of a County-wide bid for trash collection service that may include recyclables collection; evaluate same for a municipal or joint-municipal bid for trash collection service that may include recyclables collection.

Other

7. Continue existing yard waste composting programs and expand as feasible.
8. Establish a program to enhance the annual reporting of recyclables collected (types, quantities, and sources).
9. Support PA Cleanways of Mifflin County in its efforts to cleanup illegal dumps sites.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, such as PA Cleanways

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Solid Waste and Recycling Grants

UTILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Promote the expansion of telecommunication, gas, and electrical services and the compatible integration of such utilities into new and existing commercial, industrial, and residential communities to support planned economic development and enhance public safety.

AS #12. Encourage private utility companies to provide adequate gas, electricity, and telecommunication services to the County's residential and business community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ensure local utility representatives have an understanding of the County's designated growth areas. The goal is to keep utility providers knowledgeable of future growth patterns to ensure services are meeting the County's development demands.
2. Maintain GIS data of the County's utility service areas, such as natural gas.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Not applicable

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES OBJECTIVE:

Provide regional county parks and trails and encourage municipalities to provide local parks and recreation facilities to meet residents varied recreational needs.

AS #13. Implement the Juniata/Mifflin County Greenways, Open Space, and Rural Recreation Plan.

1. Coordinate the development of recreational facilities through Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council and local and non-profit organizations.
2. Continue to support pilot projects, including a boat launch on the Juniata River between the Newton Hamilton and Granville accesses, a dog park in Derry Township, sustainability for the all-volunteer playground program, and programs for tweens. Publicize the opening/dedication and future successes, large and small, to encourage continued support for public investments in recreation.

3. Support additional implementation of the plan, where there is public support and willing partners. Example projects and priorities include:
 - Three regional parks and more municipal parks, e.g. Fort Granville Heritage Park in Granville Township.
 - Development of the Juniata River Water Trail.
 - Extension of the Main Line Canal Greenway and natural creek- and ridge-based conservation greenways.
 - Programs and awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities for people ages 18 to 45.
 - Programs that create active healthy life styles and family connections. Move from sports and summer activities into year round opportunities in music, arts, and social activity.
 - An environmental education system.
4. Amend the County's subdivision and land development ordinance to include regulations for the provision of common open space and recreational facilities. The amendment should provide for a mandatory park, trail or open space requirement for conventional residential developments, as well as mobile home and manufactured home park developments.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program, CDBG, County and Statewide Act 13 funds

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CHAPTER 14

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES PLAN

INTENT

Like many of Pennsylvania counties, Mifflin County's history includes agrarian settlement, transportation routes and hubs, and the establishment of manufacturing to serve larger markets with local materials. However, the people, places, and events are what distinguish Mifflin County's history from others in the central Pennsylvania region.

The County promotes the identification, evaluation, and protection of its cultural and historic resource amenities, as well as the tourism and recreation opportunities these resources present. As a result, residents and visitors have an enhanced awareness of the important links of present Mifflin County with its rich heritage and its significant cultural and historic resources that include historic buildings and sites archaeological sites, the Pennsylvania Canal, and cemeteries and grave sites.

The Cultural and Historic Resources Plan aims to facilitate and encourage the identification of the significant cultural and historic resources in the County, to promote various means of resource protection, and to enhance awareness of the local history and the importance of preserving properties that are linked with that history.

The components of this Cultural Resources Plan include:

- Cultural and Historic Resources Goal and Objectives

The people, places, and events are what distinguish Mifflin County's history from others in the central Pennsylvania region.

- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Cultural and Historic Resources Action Plan

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one goal for cultural and historic resources and five objectives addressing historic and cultural resources as resources for community identity and for future community and economic development.

GOAL:

To preserve Mifflin County's cultural heritage and conserve its historic resources.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Preserve cultural and historic resources and their settings.
2. Promote the use of the County's historic resources and the existing cultural landscape as a basis for creating strong community character.
3. Promote the County's historic and cultural heritage in tourism, recreation, and economic development programs.
4. Encourage compatible development within and adjacent to historic districts and significant cultural landscapes.
5. Encourage identification, protection, and recognition of scenic and historic transportation systems, such as roads, railways, the canal, and their related structures.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Cultural and Historic Resources Plan supports the Housing Plan and Land Use Plan with recommendations for recognition of historic neighborhoods that offer distinctive places to live.

The Cultural and Historic Resources Plan supports the Economic Development Plan and the Environmental Resources Plan with recommendations to increase awareness of these resources as features that define the County's history, natural, built and social character and unique crafts made from local resources as support for and expanding retail and tourism economy.

The Cultural and Historic Resources Plan supports the Community Facilities, Services and Utilities Plan with support for expanded opportunities to explore history and heritage through parks and recreation.

The Cultural and Historic Resources Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending the nomination of historic transportation corridors as scenic byways.

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES ACTION PLAN

Action strategies and implementation tools have been developed to demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #1. Update and expand upon the Historical Sites Survey–Mifflin County, 1978.

Partners in these efforts should include County and local historical organizations, as well as the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update the 1978 Historical Sites Survey Part II with current conditions for the sites surveyed; update the summary in Part III.
2. Survey additional sites focusing on areas of development pressure or other threats. A targeted survey would require less effort and funding support and would be a preliminary step in prioritizing preservation efforts.
3. Digitize and support these efforts with the County’s GIS services.

Update, expand, and use the Historical Sites Survey to describe local character and to define the character that future development should have.

4. Encourage local planning efforts to consult the Historical Sites Survey in describing local character and defining the character future development should have.

Priority Level: Medium
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits
Time Frame: 2018-2019
Funding Sources: Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program

AS #2. Support historic resources nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Encourage owners of eligible historic properties to apply for “listed” status on the National Register. This effort could begin with a local informational workshop for property owners provided by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission staff.
2. Provide letters of support for new applications to the National Register.

Priority Level: Medium
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: Not Applicable

AS #3. Identify, protect, and recognize historic transportation systems, such as roads, railways, river, the canal, and their related structures, and scenic transportation corridors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nominate scenic travel corridors as Pennsylvania Byways and ensure that their scenic qualities are conserved.

1. Develop a strategy to address conservation of the Juniata Division of the Pennsylvania Main Line Canal. The strategy should explore a range of conservation options from acquisition of key parcels to private stewardship. Follow with development of an interpretative trail of the canal’s history, which users could follow using printed trail maps, online maps, smartphone applications, and tour guides. Partners in this effort should include the Pennsylvania Canal Society, the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership and Allegheny Ridge Corporation (Main Line Canal Greenway).

2. Support citizens who wish to form a non-profit organization to restore, and preserve the Juniata Division of the Pennsylvania Main Line Canal and other historic resources. The Friends of the Manayunk Canal, www.manayunkcanal.org, is an example of such an organization.
3. Protect the Lewistown railroad station as a historic transportation facility. If passenger rail service to/from Lewistown ceases, acquire the property to preserve it for future use; passenger rail service may be feasible again in the future. Consider alternatives for the use of the building: a public museum, perhaps focusing on Mifflin County's transportation history, leasing of the site as office space with unique charm, and other options.
4. Nominate US 22/322 through the Lewistown Narrows corridor, the 22/522 Lewistown Bypass and PA Route 655 to become Pennsylvania (Scenic) Byways. Consider additional road segments that would create longer or looped byways, such as:
 - the Narrows to the Bypass to US Route 522 westward to the Huntingdon County line,
 - the Narrows to PA 103 to PA 333 returning to Arch Rock Road
 - Jacks Mountain Road to link US Route 522 to PA 655.

Outreach to municipalities to gain their support.

Following state designation, a corridor management plan should be prepared. Corridor management plans for byways generally address management of the resources for which the byway was designated (archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, or scenic); the potential for land use changes that would impact the scenic quality of the corridor; transportation improvements to address safety concerns; opportunities to interpret scenic resources for travelers; and offsite signage (billboards). Alternatively or in the interim, the County could create its own scenic road designation and designate corridors deemed worthy of the designation.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits

Time Frame: 2018-2019

Funding Sources: Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program, Community Conservation Partnership Program, Preservation Fund of Pennsylvania

AS #4. Adopt a cultural landscapes approach to land use planning and regulations in Big Valley to sustain and protect agriculture and promote agri-tourism.

Coordinate land use, economic, infrastructure strategies to ensure the distinctive character of the Big Valley remains.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Invite the municipalities of the Big Valley to a workshop to define the initial opportunities and concerns regarding protection of this cultural landscape and brainstorm strategies to protect its resources. Strategies may include standards or voluntary design features (guidelines) for new development and eco-tourism among others.
2. Seek public input regarding the Big Valley and a landscape approach to protection of the land resources.
3. Work with municipalities to further define a protection strategy and identify implementation actions and responsibilities.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Non-Profits

Time Frame: 2014-2015

Funding Sources: Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program, Community Conservation Partnership Program

AS #5. Expand the number of Pennsylvania historical markers in Mifflin County.

Commemorate a person, place or event in county history at least once a decade.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Select, fund and install one new Pennsylvania historical marker every 10 years. Consider multiple people, places or events to commemorate and provide opportunities for historical organizations and the public to provide input on the selection. Host a ribbon cutting after the installation.

Priority Level: Low

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities, Private Sector

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: None at this time

AS #6. Encourage municipalities to reduce the impact of development activities on the historical and cultural resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Document any proposed actions that may impact National Historic properties or properties deemed eligible for the National Register by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission during subdivision and land development reviews. Discuss locally, and forward to the State Historic Preservation Officer if necessary.
2. Approach municipalities with the options for designating historic districts, as authorized by the Historic District Act, Act of June 13, 1961, P.L. 282, No. 167 as amended. The act provides the authority to “all counties, cities, except cities of the first and second class, boroughs, incorporated towns and townships,...to create and define, by ordinance, a historical district or districts within the geographic limits of such political subdivisions.” Thus the municipality or the county could make the designation. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission must be notified, in writing, of the ordinance and must certify the historical significance of the district or districts within the limits defined in the ordinance. The action grants “the power and duty to certify to the appropriateness of the erection, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition or razing of any building, in whole or in part, within the historic district or districts” to the governing body.

In a separate section, the act also provides authority to appoint a Historical Architectural Review Board. The purpose of the Board is to counsel the governing body, based on its composition of members, namely persons with knowledge of and interest in the preservation of historic districts,” which must include one architect and one building inspector. A county or local government can have a historic district without a HARB, as commonly known, in which case the governing body makes decisions on building changes in the historic district without advisory guidance from a group of knowledgeable professionals and citizens, if it so chooses.

An area of Lewistown is considered an unofficial historic district by PennDOT and PHMC, making this portion of Lewistown a candidate for a locally designated historic district. Juniata Terrace may be interested in guiding redevelopment after the March 2014 fire to fit seamlessly into its character. Other municipalities may also be interested.

3. Present model historic district overlay provisions for municipal consideration. The overlay could offer incentives, such as a density

Explore the use of locally designated historic districts to call attention to cohesive neighborhoods . Sustain their character through guidance and/or regulation.

bonus, for development that is proposed to be in character with historic resources, or could require protection of certain features, e.g. historic façades, or require consistent design features, e.g. door and window proportions, in the area designated by the overlay. Such an overlay could be used to protect the culturally valued building facades while allowing the rest of the building to be demolished and built anew.

Cornwall Borough adopted historic district overlay provisions and applied them to less than a dozen rowhomes that extended Miner’s Village, one of three village as part of the Cornwall Iron Furnace community (1742-1883) in Lebanon County, PA.

4. Assist municipalities in amending ordinances to incorporate Historic District Overlays where significant resources are located.

Priority Level: Medium
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: 2018-2019
Funding Sources: Not applicable

AS #7. Support and provide technical assistance to organizations that promote the historical and contemporary cultural resources of Mifflin County.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Support the efforts of the Friends of the Embassy Theatre in their work to restore the Embassy Theatre to an active use. Ensure an open dialogue is maintained with the organization’s members and support public recognition of their efforts, e.g. county newsletter and news articles.
2. Support the efforts of the Kishacoquillas Valley Historical Society in their efforts to preserve the Amish and Mennonite culture and history, as well as other significant heritage resources of the Kish Valley. Ensure an open dialogue is maintained with the organization’s members and support public recognition of their efforts, e.g. county newsletter and news articles.
3. Support the efforts of the Mifflin County Historical Society, specifically including the landmark building program, administered in conjunction with Downtown Lewistown, Inc. Also consider special recognition of this 10-year old program through a county award and/or nomination for state recognition.

Recognize organizations that promote and contribute to a sense of place, history, and community.

4. Support the efforts of the Mifflin-Juniata Arts Council.
5. Support the efforts of the Community Partnerships Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D). Continue financial support for the agency and consider additional project-specific contributions.
6. Provide data, guidance, and assistance to other organizations applying for grants, tax credits and technical and financial assistance programs.
7. Promote the use of online community calendars to encourage citizens' awareness of activities and events that connect them to the community and to one another. Set up additional calendar administrators to enable more than the hosting organization to list community events.
8. Encourage the use of historic sites, with owner permission, as venues for special events. Bringing people to the site can increase awareness and appreciation of the site and its history.
9. Encourage guided and self-guided tours that feature historic landmarks, as well as lesser known historic churches, cemeteries, monuments, etc. Guided tours would occur as events, while self-guided tours are enabled by printed and online brochures or by online applications (apps).

The Self-Guided Walking Tour of Historic Lewistown is available at www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pamchs/WalkingTour/walkingtour.htm. Perhaps the online access could be made more user-friendly by hosting the brochure on a locally recognizable website, e.g. the Visitors Bureau website, or by linking a local website to ancestry.com and using the text "Walking Tour of Historic Lewistown".

The Lebanon Valley Conservancy has worked in partnership with others to create the Lebanon Heritage Trail, a 100-mile driving tour of Lebanon County's towns and villages and its natural and cultural resources. Walking tours in each town or village are being prepared as funds allow. The trail website is <http://www.lebanonpatrail.org/>.

Priority Level: Medium

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Non-Profits

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: National Endowment for the Humanities (multiple grant programs)

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CHAPTER 15

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES PLAN

INTENT

Environmental resources are found in every community. The County's soils and geology directly support agricultural and mineral extraction industries that provide jobs and income for local families. Its water resources provide water supply for household use and consumption and industrial processing, and for fire protection and recreation. Its native forests support a timber industry and scenic, seasonal landscapes are home to game and non-game species.

The intent of the Environmental Resources Plan is to conserve, or wisely use, the environmental resources in Mifflin County in ways that benefit communities without impacting their future availability or quality. Because some land uses rely on resources or should be protected from natural hazards, the principles of this plan are interrelated with those of the Land Use Plan; some cross-references are provided. For example, flooding remains the primary natural hazard to Mifflin County communities, as documented in the Mifflin County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Also, agriculture is a land use that maintains a permeable soil surface for rainfall to infiltrate and recharge groundwater. Thus, floodplain protection and continued support for agriculture are discussed in both the Land Use and Environmental Resources Plans.

The components of this Environmental Resources Plan include:

- Environmental Resources Goal and Objectives
- Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Environmental Resources Action Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one environmental resources goal and five supporting objectives to address protection of resources critical to the quality of the environment in which we live.

GOAL:

To preserve, protect, and enhance environmental resources while accommodating planned growth.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Protect sensitive natural features from development and its adverse impacts; restore natural features and systems where feasible.
2. Protect scenic natural features, including steep slopes and ridgetops, from development and adverse impacts.
3. Conserve quality soils for agriculture and other open space benefits.
4. Protect surface water and groundwater resources.
5. Increase environmental awareness among residents.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Environmental Resources Plan supports the Housing Plan with a recommendation to manage truck traffic from extractive industries, limiting traffic impacts on residential neighborhoods.

The Environmental Resources Plan supports the Economic Development Plan with recommendations for supporting agriculture, forestry and other natural resource-based industries.

The Environmental Resources Plan supports the Land Use Plan with recommendations for conservation easements to protect sensitive resources while retaining other property rights and values.

The Environmental Resources Plan coordinates with the Community Facilities Plan by recommending floodplain protection, reducing demand for emergency services during flood events.

The Environmental Resources Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations for the protection of ridgelines for scenic views from the valley.

The Environmental Resources Plan coordinates with the Transportation Plan by recommending corridor management plans for designated byways.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ACTION PLAN

Action strategies and implementation tools have been developed to demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed by key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low
- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners, and/or the School District
- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #1. Protect floodplains from new development, and restore floodplains to open space, where feasible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide each municipality with a hard copy map illustrating the location of 100-year floodplains with respect to its existing zoning districts and/or its existing land use pattern.
2. Encourage local municipalities to participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS) program, which reduces the flood insurance rate premiums of property owners in participating municipalities. For example, host an educational seminar for local officials and insurance agents regarding the CRS

Because they already have zoning provision to protect floodplains, Burnham, Kistler, McVeytown, Brown, and Derry, are candidates for the CRS program.

program, distributing the CRS Brochure for local officials, and/or by distributing the CRS newsletter. Currently, only Lewistown and Granville and Union Townships participate in the CRS program. Visit <http://www.fema.gov> for more information.

3. Participate in PEMA’s training and floodplain protection workshops offered by local government associations.
4. Direct municipal officials to the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) educational and training resources.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: Not applicable

AS #2. Protect important natural resources and features including steep slopes, floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, wildlife habitat, and ridge tops. (from Greenways Plan, 2010, Recommendation 1.1 and 1.3)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide each municipality with a map illustrating the location of steep slopes (e.g., >15 percent), floodplains, riparian areas, and natural area inventory sites, and ridge tops with respect to its existing zoning districts and/or its existing land use pattern. Wetlands should also be referenced for site-by-site investigation.
2. Encourage municipalities, especially those in open space and conservation area priorities, to adopt effective zoning and land development regulations that promote natural resource protection. Provide technical assistance and model ordinances to municipalities to promote sustainable land use practices and natural resource protection.

Recommended ordinance provisions are noted below along with a brief statement of intent. Each ordinance provision should be fully developed with additional criteria and appropriate exceptions.

- Restrict permitted uses and coverage requirements for property located on slopes of fifteen percent (15%) or more.
- Restrict alteration, regrading, and clearing of slopes of twenty-five percent (25%) or greater.

Zoning ordinances for McVeytown, Derry, and Granville specifically protect steep slopes from development. Zoning in other communities does not.

- Restrict development of or discharge directly or indirectly toward areas of high water table soils.
 - Require a wetland buffer of at least thirty-five (35) feet from the wetland boundary. Restrict earth moving activities or development of impervious surfaces within the buffer.
 - Require riparian buffers of at least fifty (50) feet from stream banks. Restrict woodland or land disturbance within the buffer though timber harvesting in accordance with a certified woodland management plan would be an appropriate exception.
 - Restrict the development of structures, such as homes and wind turbines, at or above ridgeline elevations to preserve scenic views of the forested mountains.
 - Restrict development with setbacks from water sources and community water system wellheads.
3. Where byways are designated to recognize natural resources and features, prepare corridor management plans to include appropriate natural resource management. (See Chapter 14, AS#3, Recommendation 4)
4. Work with the Conservation District and other partners to educate citizens about the importance of conserving natural resources. Consider targeted outreach to the following audiences:
- a. Reactivate the Planning Commission’s Environmental Resources Committee.
 - b. Establish an advisory panel of conservation partners to work with the Environmental Resources Committee on natural resource protection. Include representatives of Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Bureau of State Forestry, Game Commission, Fish & Boat Commission, County Conservation Districts, and conservation organizations such as the Audubon Society, Trout Unlimited and National Wild Turkey Federation.
 - c. Distribute information about conservation strategies that any landowner can practice on their lands.
 - Provide information about the importance of riparian buffers and resources available to waterside landowners, especially farmers, to protect and/or restore riparian buffers on their properties. For example, the Game Commission’s cooperative habitat protection

Conservation easements protect sensitive resources and keep valuable open space open.

programs and NRCS's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) protect and restore riparian buffers. The program provides income for landowners who enroll their properties and conserve soils with cover crops.

- Direct landowners of large tracts such as sportsmen clubs, camps, and farmers to tools and organizations that can help them manage natural resources on their lands in a sustainable manner.
5. Explore the establishment of a land trust or conservancy to serve Mifflin County. A land trust or conservancy would own, monitor and enforce conservation easements on properties and possible on building facades or other specific features.
 6. Seek conservation easements for the protection of natural resources on lands vulnerable to development. Promote conservation strategies and initiatives that reduce fragmentation of resources, protect vegetative cover of ridgelines and riparian corridors, protect scenic areas, and control invasive species.

The Juniata Clean Water Partnership, the Central PA Conservancy, and state agencies, such as the Bureau of State Forests, State Game Lands, and the PA Fish and Boat Commission, are potential partners and/or technical assistance resources for all of these recommendations.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Non-Profits

Time Frame: 2018-2019

Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program, County/State Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

AS #3. Preserve large interconnected areas of significant open space.
(from Greenways Plan, 2010, Recommendation 1.1 and 1.3; see full description in Chapter 12, Land Use Plan)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide technical assistance from the County Planning and Development Department, Conservation District, and Agricultural Conservation Easement Program to protect the open space and conservation area priorities listed in the Greenways Plan (and illustrated on the Greenway Plan’s Map 28).
 - a. Blue and Shade Mountains – along southern County boundary at Lewistown Narrows
 - b. Jacks Mountain
 - c. Stone, Long, Strong, and Thick Mountains
 - d. Juniata River Corridor
 - e. Lingle Creek – west of Mount Pleasant
 - f. Ferguson Valley – toe of Jacks Mtn. in Oliver Township
 - g. Toe Slope of Jack’s Mountain in eastern Decatur Township
2. Develop a formal strategic conservation outreach program for municipalities and for landowners and citizens.
3. Promote tax measures and planning tools that municipalities can use to acquire land with public access or preserve land as open space. Such tools are described in *Opportunity Knocks - Open Space is a Community Investment*, published by the Heritage Conservancy in 2008.
4. Encourage local planning efforts to identify connected land areas to be conserved along with specific recommendations on how to do so.

Promote open space conservation through programs that emphasize environmental stewardship and financial return.

Priority Level: Moderate
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipalities, Private Sector Non-Profits
Time Frame: 2016-2017
Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program

AS #4. Maintain and enhance agriculture. (from Greenways Plan, 2010, Recommendation 1.2; see full description in Chapter 12, Land Use Plan)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide education to municipal officials on land use planning and its benefits relative to agriculture and water resources in collaboration with the Conservation District and Penn State Cooperative Extension.
2. Provide education for municipal officials and landowners about the benefits and restrictions of the Agricultural Security Area program and Agricultural Conservation Easement program in conjunction with the Conservation District.
3. Support and, when possible, strengthen the farmland preservation program.
4. Encourage municipalities to list new and emerging types of niche type of farming, as permitted land uses.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: County/State Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, PA Department of Agriculture, US Department of Agriculture, APA/PA Central Section education mini-grants

Increasingly, water resource management emphasizes water quality so that it can be re-used downstream.

AS #5. Promote the protection and enhancement of the County's surface and groundwater supplies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update the model Mifflin County Stormwater Management Ordinance, as needed and to encourage further participation by those municipalities that have no stormwater ordinance in place.
2. Work with the Mifflin County Conservation District in its efforts to employ best management practices (BMPs) throughout the county's farming community. These BMPs should be in accordance with erosion and sedimentation control standards set forth in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Erosion Control regulations (PA Code, Chapter 102).

3. Assist municipalities in adopting wellhead protection regulations for community water system wells. All planning activities should follow regulations and policies set forth in the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act, and PA Department of Environmental Protection Wellhead Protection Program.
4. Work with the Mifflin County Conservation District to develop and promote educational programs and materials on water resource issues for the business, agricultural, and residential communities. Incorporate the concerns of the Juniata River Watershed Management Plan as listed below.
 - Storm water runoff
 - Surface and ground water contamination from malfunctioning septic systems
 - Illegal roadside dumping
 - Contamination of private wells from unknown sources
 - Nutrient runoff from agricultural operations
 - Stream bank damage from non-agricultural sources
 - Support the efforts of the Mifflin County Chapter of PA Cleanways.
 - Support citizens who wish to organize a Citizen's Volunteer Monitoring Program (CVMP). Volunteers supplement government monitoring programs by providing information immediately following a storm or in remote areas. Resource agencies can then more effectively manage and protect Pennsylvania's aquatic resources. For more information, visit:
http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/citizen%27s_volunteer_monitoring_program/10596/monitoring_program_initiatives/554213.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipalities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding Sources: Chesapeake Bay programs, DEP 319 program and USDA programs like EQUIP

AS #6. Develop a comprehensive network of greenways, trails, and bikeways (as listed below and illustrated on the Greenways Plan’s Map 22). (from Greenways Plan, 2010, Recommendation 2.2; see full description in Chapter 12, Land Use Plan)

RECOMMENDATION

1. Conserve the Central Spine of the Juniata-Mifflin greenways system. This spine is composed of four priority regional greenway segments:
 - Main Line Canal Greenway (in Juniata County)
 - Main Line Canal Greenway – Juniata County to Lewistown
 - Main Line Canal Greenway – Lewistown to Huntingdon County
 - Kishacoquillas Creek Greenway – Lewistown to Reedsville and on to Belleville

Table 15-1 Prioritized Greenways

Greenways are corridors of connected natural and cultural resources; they can be designated for conservation with or without and recreation.

Prioritized Greenways (with trails, from the Greenways Plan, 2010)
Main Line Canal Greenway – Juniata County border to Lewistown
Main Line Canal Greenway – Lewistown to Huntingdon County border
Kishacoquillas Creek Greenway – Lewistown to Reedsville
Kishacoquillas Creek Greenway – Reedsville to Belleville
Prioritized Greenways (without trails, from the Greenways Plan, 2010)
Black Log Mountain/Shade Mountain Greenway – west of Juniata River
Jacks Mountain Greenway – west of Kish Creek (not Juniata River as listed)
Jacks Mountain Greenway – east of Kish Creek (not Juniata River as listed)

These greenways have are identified as “active” greenways with trails. Team with DCNR, the Allegheny Ridge Corporation, and JCWP to plan, conserve, and develop trails and interpretive features along the greenway.

As opportunities arise, conserve and enhance the Kishacoquillas Creek Greenway from Reedsville to Belleville and pursue other trail projects identified in the Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan, including the Green Avenue Extension.

2. Work with the Bureau of State Forest and Game Commission to protect the natural greenways, i.e. conservation corridors without trails for the ridgetops of Black Log Mountain/Shade Mountain and Jacks Mountain.
 - Evaluate the land ownership status of the natural greenway corridors to determine which lands are already protected by public (state) ownership or easement and which are unprotected.
 - Develop a strategy for the conservation of unprotected lands that reduces fragmentation, expands protection, and links protected parcels. The strategy should include outreach/education and planning tools. Relevant planning tools include greenway designations in municipal or multi-comprehensive plans and in parks, recreation, greenways and open space plans, and in municipal zoning ordinances and maps.
 - Provide information on natural resource management to landowners of the ridgeline.
 - Acquire conservation easements on mountain and ridgeline lands to protect their natural resources and scenic qualities and along riparian corridors to protect their ecological functions.

Priority Level: Moderate

Responsible Entity(ies): County, Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Non-Profits

Time Frame: 2018-2019

Funding Sources: Community Conservation Partnership Program

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CHAPTER 16 TRANSPORTATION PLAN

INTENT

A well-functioning transportation system is essential for Mifflin County to move people and goods, maintain the quality of life, and provide for economic growth and diversification. Historically, the County has relied on efficient transportation systems for its economic development; particularly, the Pennsylvania Canal and rail systems. Today, Mifflin County's strategic location along some of the Commonwealth's major transportation corridors (i.e., U.S. Routes 22, 522, 322, and Amtrak and Norfolk Southern Rail Lines) has continued to provide it with the mobility to accommodate growth and development.

The intent of this Transportation Plan is to promote the safe and efficient movement of goods and people throughout the County and region through the provision of a well-functioning transportation system. The plan utilizes a multi-modal approach to the transportation network consisting of pedestrian, bicycle, street and highway, transit, air and rail facilities. Three figures accompany the text of the Transportation Plan:

- Figure 16-1, Planned Transportation Improvement Projects, illustrates 18 projects and their locations listed and funded on SEDA-COG's 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program.

A well-functioning transportation system addresses safety and access for all modes of travel: pedestrian, bicycle, street and highway, transit, air and rail facilities.

- Figure 16-2, Long Range Transportation Improvement Projects, and Figure 16-3, of the same name and focuses on the Greater Lewistown Area, illustrate 27 locations where transportation facilities need evaluation and/or improvement for mobility and safety. These projects have been identified by Mifflin County. Some have already been incorporated in SEDA-COG's Long Range Transportation Plan (through 2035); others should be incorporated in future updates.

All three figures include the future land use designations, including Planned Growth Areas for existing and future community and economic development in urban, suburban and village settings, and Planned Conservation Areas for lower density community and economic development in rural settings. The visual layering future land use and transportation improvement data reflects an emphasis on maintaining and improving transportation infrastructure in the Planned Growth Areas.

The projects and recommendations shown in the Transportation Plan and on its accompanying figures are those known or identified as of April 2014. Over time, additional transportation needs will arise. As additional candidate projects are identified, the text and figures may be updated and adopted in support of efforts to program and fund all projects.

The components of this Transportation Plan include:

- Transportation Goal and Objectives
- Transportation Interrelationships with Other Action Plans
- Transportation Action Plan

TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The County has one transportation goal and three supporting objectives to address access, connectivity and safety in the transportation system, as well as freight movements.

GOAL:

To achieve and sustain a complete, safe, and efficient multi-modal transportation system.

OBJECTIVES:

1. **Access and Connectivity:** Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of a complete surface transportation system (i.e., highway, rail, transit, bicycle and pedestrian networks) to

interconnect community and employment destinations in areas of existing and planned development, as indicated in the Land Use Plan. (The extent of each network will vary by location.)

2. **Freight:** Improve, expand and market the county's air- and rail-related facilities.
3. **Safety:** Support mobility and safety improvements across the transportation system.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

The Transportation Plan supports the Housing Plan with emphasis on multi-modal transportation improvement and efficiency within the Planned Growth Area, helping to reduce transportation costs and maintain affordability in this portion of the County.

The Transportation Plan supports the Economic Development Plan with recommendations for improving access to current and future business sites and to nearby interstates, supporting freight and air modes for shipping/receiving and corporate access, and for improving public transportation services.

The Transportation Plan supports the Land Use Plan with recommendations for improved access management through subdivision and land development ordinance updates.

The Transportation Plan coordinates with the Community Facilities Plan by recommending expansion of bicycle and pedestrian system, which would enhance access to parks and other community facilities.

The Transportation Plan relates to the Cultural and Historic Resources Plan through recommendations for designating byways based on cultural and historic features among others.

TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN

Action strategies and implementation tools have been developed to demonstrate how the County and local municipalities can make progress toward the goals and objectives. Action Strategies group recommendations related to specific issues. Each action strategy is followed key points to implement its associated recommendations:

- a priority level: High, Medium, or Low

- entities responsible for implementation: Mifflin County, Local Municipalities, State Agencies, Private Sector Partners; and/or the School District
- a time frame for initiating the strategy
- potential funding sources, described in Appendix D of this Plan.

ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY OBJECTIVE:

Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of a complete surface transportation system (i.e., highway, rail, transit, bicycle and pedestrian networks) to interconnect community and employment destinations in areas of existing and planned development, as indicated in the Land Use Plan. (The extent of each network will vary by location.)

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #1. Use the SEDA-COG MPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and its four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to pursue state and federal funding for eligible transportation improvement projects.

Land Use Connection: Prioritize improvements within the Planned Growth Area to make this area convenient and attractive to new development and redevelopment.

Recommendations

1. Advocate for projects listed on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Twelve Year Plan (TYP) through completion; years listed with each project below indicate periods of planning, design, and/or construction activity. Review transportation project priorities, and revise as appropriate, prior to each TYP update. If conditions or concerns for a listed project change as or before the project proceeds, provide updated information to SEDA-COG, PennDOT and the State Transportation Commission. See Figure 16-1 for 2015 TIP project locations. See Figures 16-2 and 16-3 for projects to be programmed in future TIP cycles.
 1. Bridge Design/Construction @ Strodes Run, 2014-2015
 2. Bridge Construction @ SR4013 and Musser Run, 2013-2014 (nearing competition)
 3. Bridge Construction @ Kish Cr/Ramp/Jacks/Various, 2015-2016

FIGURE 16-1 PLANNED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (2013-2020) MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2014.
Data sources from PennDOT, SEDA-COG and Mifflin County.



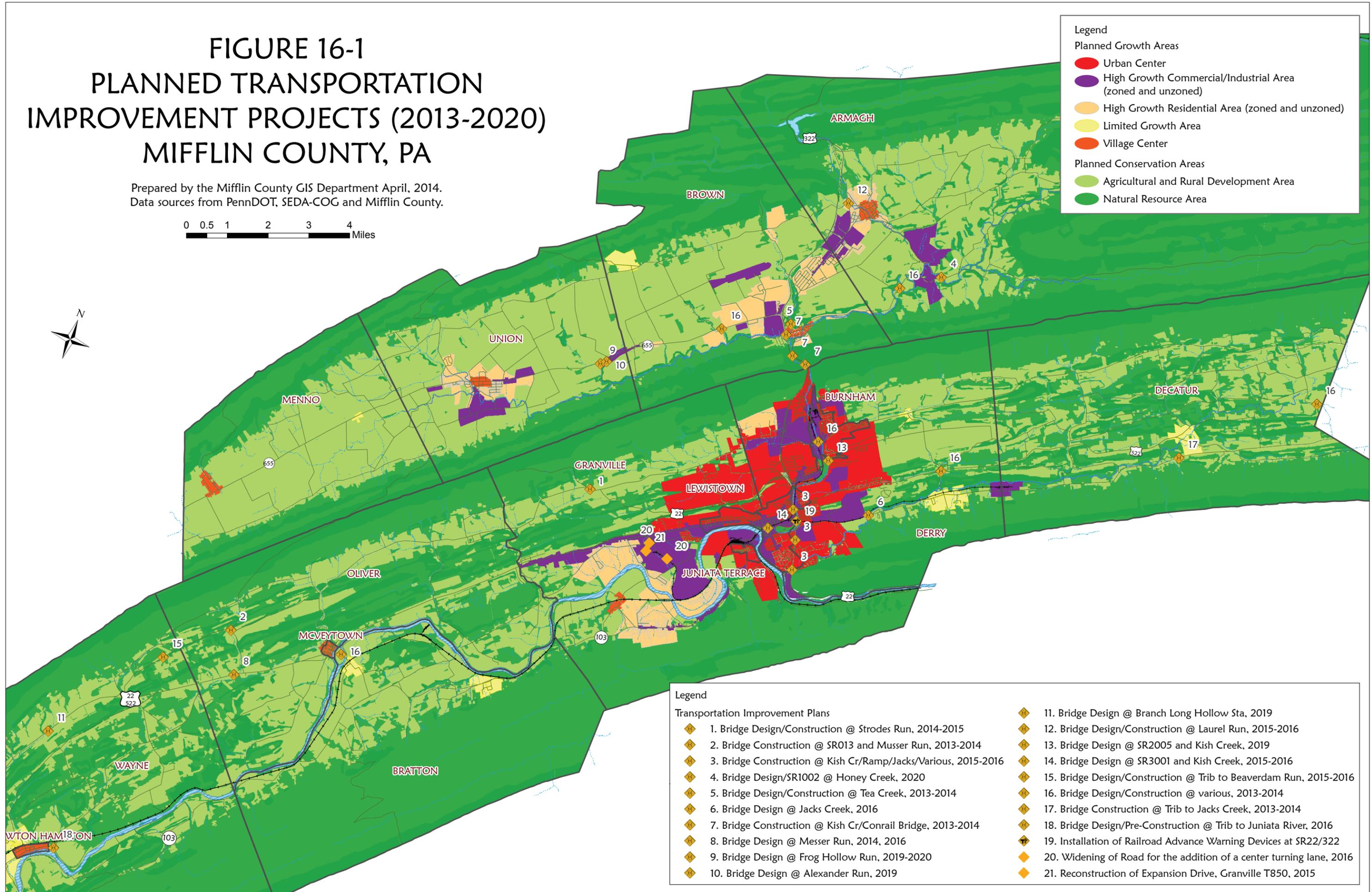
Legend

Planned Growth Areas

- Urban Center
- High Growth Commercial/Industrial Area (zoned and unzoned)
- High Growth Residential Area (zoned and unzoned)
- Limited Growth Area
- Village Center

Planned Conservation Areas

- Agricultural and Rural Development Area
- Natural Resource Area



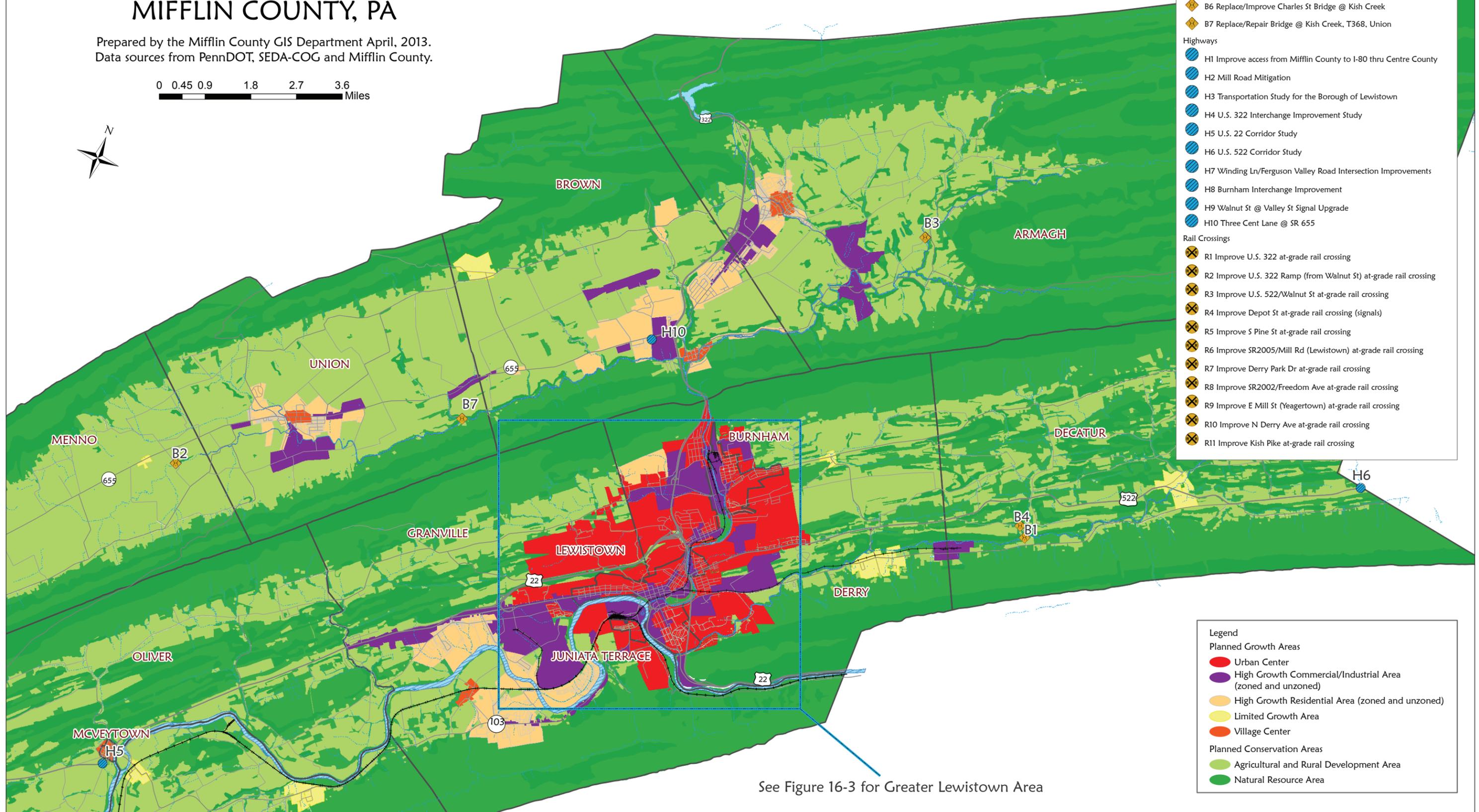
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Transportation Improvement Plans

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1. Bridge Design/Construction @ Strodes Run, 2014-2015 ◆ 2. Bridge Construction @ SR013 and Musser Run, 2013-2014 ◆ 3. Bridge Construction @ Kish Cr/Ramp/Jacks/Various, 2015-2016 ◆ 4. Bridge Design/SR1002 @ Honey Creek, 2020 ◆ 5. Bridge Design/Construction @ Tea Creek, 2013-2014 ◆ 6. Bridge Design @ Jacks Creek, 2016 ◆ 7. Bridge Construction @ Kish Cr/Conrail Bridge, 2013-2014 ◆ 8. Bridge Design @ Messer Run, 2014, 2016 ◆ 9. Bridge Design @ Frog Hollow Run, 2019-2020 ◆ 10. Bridge Design @ Alexander Run, 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 11. Bridge Design @ Branch Long Hollow Sta, 2019 ◆ 12. Bridge Design/Construction @ Laurel Run, 2015-2016 ◆ 13. Bridge Design @ SR2005 and Kish Creek, 2019 ◆ 14. Bridge Design @ SR3001 and Kish Creek, 2015-2016 ◆ 15. Bridge Design/Construction @ Trib to Beaverdam Run, 2015-2016 ◆ 16. Bridge Design/Construction @ various, 2013-2014 ◆ 17. Bridge Construction @ Trib to Jacks Creek, 2013-2014 ◆ 18. Bridge Design/Pre-Construction @ Trib to Juniata River, 2016 ◆ 19. Installation of Railroad Advance Warning Devices at SR22/322 ◆ 20. Widening of Road for the addition of a center turning lane, 2016 ◆ 21. Reconstruction of Expansion Drive, Granville T850, 2015
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FIGURE 16-2 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2013.
Data sources from PennDOT, SEDA-COG and Mifflin County.



- Legend**
- Bridges**
- B1 Replace/Repair Alfarata Road Bridges
 - B2 Knepp Road Bridge Repair/Post weight limit, T342, Menno Twp
 - B3 Replace County Bridge @ Treaster Run T465, Armagh Twp
 - B4 Replace County Bridge @ Meadow Creek, T321, Decatur Twp
 - B5 Replace/Repair Bridge @ Buck Run, T783, Derry Twp
 - B6 Replace/Improve Charles St Bridge @ Kish Creek
 - B7 Replace/Repair Bridge @ Kish Creek, T368, Union
- Highways**
- H1 Improve access from Mifflin County to I-80 thru Centre County
 - H2 Mill Road Mitigation
 - H3 Transportation Study for the Borough of Lewistown
 - H4 U.S. 322 Interchange Improvement Study
 - H5 U.S. 22 Corridor Study
 - H6 U.S. 522 Corridor Study
 - H7 Winding Ln/Ferguson Valley Road Intersection Improvements
 - H8 Burnham Interchange Improvement
 - H9 Walnut St @ Valley St Signal Upgrade
 - H10 Three Cent Lane @ SR 655
- Rail Crossings**
- R1 Improve U.S. 322 at-grade rail crossing
 - R2 Improve U.S. 322 Ramp (from Walnut St) at-grade rail crossing
 - R3 Improve U.S. 522/Walnut St at-grade rail crossing
 - R4 Improve Depot St at-grade rail crossing (signals)
 - R5 Improve S Pine St at-grade rail crossing
 - R6 Improve SR2005/Mill Rd (Lewistown) at-grade rail crossing
 - R7 Improve Derry Park Dr at-grade rail crossing
 - R8 Improve SR2002/Freedom Ave at-grade rail crossing
 - R9 Improve E Mill St (Yeagertown) at-grade rail crossing
 - R10 Improve N Derry Ave at-grade rail crossing
 - R11 Improve Kish Pike at-grade rail crossing

- Legend**
- Planned Growth Areas**
- Urban Center
 - High Growth Commercial/Industrial Area (zoned and unzoned)
 - High Growth Residential Area (zoned and unzoned)
 - Limited Growth Area
 - Village Center
- Planned Conservation Areas**
- Agricultural and Rural Development Area
 - Natural Resource Area

See Figure 16-3 for Greater Lewistown Area

FIGURE 16-3 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN THE GREATER LEWISTOWN AREA MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA



Prepared by the Mifflin County GIS Department April, 2013.
Data sources from PennDOT, SEDA-COG and Mifflin County.

Legend

Planned Growth Areas

- Urban Center
- High Growth Commercial/Industrial Area (zoned and unzoned)
- High Growth Residential Area (zoned and unzoned)
- Limited Growth Area
- Village Center

Planned Conservation Areas

- Agricultural and Rural Development Area
- Natural Resource Area

Legend

Bridges

- ◆ B1 Replace/Repair Alfarata Road Bridges
- ◆ B2 Knepp Road Bridge Repair/Post weight limit, T342, Menno Twp
- ◆ B3 Replace County Bridge @ Treaster Run T465, Armagh Twp
- ◆ B4 Replace County Bridge @ Meadow Creek, T321, Decatur Twp
- ◆ B5 Replace/Repair Bridge @ Buck Run, T783, Derry Twp
- ◆ B6 Replace/Improve Charles St Bridge @ Kish Creek
- ◆ B7 Replace/Repair Bridge @ Kish Creek, T368, Union

Highways

- H1 Improve access from Mifflin County to I-80 thru Centre County
- H2 Mill Road Mitigation
- H3 Transportation Study for the Borough of Lewistown
- H4 U.S. 322 Interchange Improvement Study
- H5 U.S. 22 Corridor Study
- H6 U.S. 522 Corridor Study
- H7 Winding Ln/Ferguson Valley Road Intersection Improvements
- H8 Burnham Interchange Improvement
- H9 Walnut St @ Valley St Signal Upgrade

Rail Crossings

- ⊗ R1 Improve U.S. 322 at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R2 Improve U.S. 322 Ramp (from Walnut St) at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R3 Improve U.S. 522/Walnut St at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R4 Improve Depot St at-grade rail crossing (signals)
- ⊗ R5 Improve S Pine St at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R6 Improve SR2005/Mill Rd (Lewistown) at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R7 Improve Derry Park Dr at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R8 Improve SR2002/Freedom Ave at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R9 Improve E Mill St (Yeagertown) at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R10 Improve N Derry Ave at-grade rail crossing
- ⊗ R11 Improve Kish Pike at-grade rail crossing



Projects not shown on this map are displayed on Figure 16-2

-
4. Bridge Design/SR1002 @ Honey Creek, 2020
 5. Bridge Design/Construction @ Tea Creek, 2013-2014
 6. Bridge Design @ Jacks Creek, 2016
 7. Bridge Construction @ Kish Cr/Conrail Bridge, 2013-2014
 8. Bridge Design @ Musser Run, 2014, 2016
 9. Bridge Design @ Frog Hollow Run, 2019-2020
 10. Bridge Design @ Alexander Run, 2019
 11. Bridge Design @ Branch Long Hollow Station, 2019
 12. Bridge Design/Construction @ Laurel Run, 2015-2016
 13. Bridge Design @ SR2005 and Kish Creek, 2019
 14. Bridge Design @ SR3001 and Kish Creek, 2015-2016
 15. Bridge Design/Construction @ Tributary to Beaverdam Run, 2015-2016
 16. Bridge Design/Construction @ Various, 2013-2014
 17. Bridge Construction @ Tributary to Jacks Creek, 2013-2014
 18. Bridge Design/Pre-Construction @ Tributary to Juniata River, 2016
 19. Installation of Railroad Advance Warning Devices at SR 22/322 At-Grade Crossing
 20. Widening of Industrial Park Road from Middle Road to Loop Road (approximately 4,000 feet) for the addition of a center turning lane, and widening of Middle Road from Industrial Park Road to Expansion Drive (approximately 1,300 feet) for the addition of a center turning lane, 2016
 21. Reconstruct Expansion Drive, Granville TR 850, an access road into the Industrial Park, 2015
2. Continue to evaluate transportation needs and submit candidate projects to SEDA-COG's Long Range Transportation Plan for future funding. See below for highway, bridge and multi-modal project candidates. If projects are not eligible for state or federal funding, work with SEDA-COG to identify other potential sources of funding. Study and scope the improvements to include all applicable modes of transportation to create complete streets (and bridges) for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists in urban and village environments.

Improved access to the county's industrial park is a high priority.

Improved access from Mifflin County to I-80 in Centre County is the county's number one long range transportation priority.

A traffic study in downtown Lewistown could identify opportunities to improve travel times and travel safety.

Highway Improvement Projects (See Figures 16-2 and 16-3 for locations):

- H1. Support the ongoing efforts, formerly known as the South Central Centre County Transportation Improvement Plan, to improve highway access between Centre and Mifflin Counties. This project is Mifflin County's highest priority. Improved access from Mifflin County to Interstate 80 will enhance the County's economic development potential.
- H2. Improve (lengthen) the Electric Avenue exit ramp from westbound US Route 322. In conjunction or as a separate effort, consider alternatives for the intersection of Mill Street at Electric Avenue. Alternatives include: installing a concrete island that would require all northbound traffic on Mill Street to turn right onto Electric Avenue and making Mill Street one-way southbound to eliminate any conflicts with the exit ramp and Electric Avenue.
- H3. Conduct a traffic study in the Borough of Lewistown. Using the most recent traffic volume and crash data, this study would examine traffic patterns in downtown Lewistown and would develop recommendations for ways to improve traffic safety, traffic signalization/coordination and operational aspects, and overall traffic flow into and out of the downtown.
- H4. U.S. 322 Interchange Improvement Study for the Charles St., Walnut St. and Electric Ave interchanges.
- H5. Conduct a U.S. 22 Corridor Study. The Road Safety Audits conducted in 2012 provided significant suggestions for safety improvement along this corridor. Once the suggestions have been implemented, Mifflin County should determine whether further corridor-wide assessment is needed.
- H6. Continue the corridor study of US 22/522 from the Huntingdon County border into Mifflin County; coordinate improvements with those implemented from the initial study completed for the Huntingdon and Blair Counties' portion of US 22/522. At minimum, monitor commuter traffic volumes between Mifflin and Huntingdon Counties. As trends show increasing volumes, evaluate the need for capacity improvements. If crash data indicates the potential for unsafe conditions, study the need for safety improvements.
- H7. Improve SR 4013/Ferguson Valley Road at Winding Lane in Derry Township.

- H8. Improve the U.S Route 322 interchange with SR 4013/Ferguson Valley Road (Burnham/Reedsville exit) to current AASHTO standards. This interchange area has been a target for private land development in recent years. As this area develops, traffic volumes entering and exiting the highway will increase and the need for traffic control will also increase. Improvements associated with land development projects will help with traffic control but are not likely to address the deficiencies of the interchange ramps.
- H9. Install a semi-actuated traffic controller and ADA-compliant pedestrian accommodation at the intersection of Walnut and Valley Streets in Lewistown, and coordinate timing with other signals along Valley Street to enable a smoother flow of traffic. This improvement would be eligible for PennDOT's Automated Red Light Enforcement Funding Program.
- H10. Improve the intersection of Three Cent Lane with SR 655 consistent with the demands of local development.
- H11. Add an exit only lane along US 322 westbound between the Charles Street and Walnut Street Interchanges. This lane would provide an additional 1,000 feet of merging area for traffic entering US 322 from Charles Street and for traffic exiting onto Walnut Street.
- H12. Widen SR 655, where feasible. SR 655 is the primary route through the Big Valley. Mifflin County's Amish community is predominantly located here, resulting in abundant buggy traffic along this state highway. Portions of the highway cannot be widened due to existing structures and severe topography. But the highway should be widened, where feasible, to accommodate motorized traffic and buggies safely. The study phase of the project should explore potential alternatives, such as a passing lane for motorized vehicles or buggy lanes (wide shoulders).

Both Lancaster and Crawford Counties have attempted to accommodate their Amish and Plain Sect populations in their transportation improvement planning. Lancaster County has worked with local bishops to establish an Amish Safety Committee that makes suggestions on road and intersections improvements.

In addition, Route 655 immediately west of the interchange with U.S. Route 322 is characterized by strong development pressure for both commercial and residential development. The County should continue to monitor traffic demand in this area to

preserve future safety and capacity as development occurs.

Bridge Improvement Projects (See Figures 16-2 and 16-3 for locations):

- B1. Replace the Jacks Creek bridge along Township Road 737 (Alfarata Road) in Decatur Township.
- B2. Repair and post weight limits on the bridge along Township Road 342 (Knepp Road) in Menno Township.
- B3. Replace the county-owned bridge over Treaster Run along Township Road 465 (Barefoot Road) in Armagh Township.
- B4. Replace/repair the county-owned bridge over Meadow Creek along Township Road 321 (Guss Road) in Decatur Township.
- B5. Replace/repair the bridge over Buck Run along Township Road 783 (Nolan Drive) in Derry Township.
- B6. Replace the bridge over Kish Creek on Township Road 368 (Spring Run Road) in Union Township.
- B7. When the Charles Street bridge over Kishacoquillas Creek is scheduled to be replaced, coordinate with SEDA-COG and PennDOT District 2-0 to include consideration of additional width to accommodate greater left turn lane storage for the intersection.
- B8. Replace the Havice Valley Road bridge along Township Road 448 in Armagh Township.
- B9. Replace/repair the county-owned bridge over Jacks Creek along Township Road 707 (Dormonton Road) in Decatur Township.
- B10. Replace the Kishacoquillas Creek bridge on Township Road 439 (West Railroad Street) in Brown Township.
- B11. Replace the Belltown Run Bridge on Township Road 391 (Ertley Road) in Decatur Township.
- B12. Remove the Kishacoquillas Creek bridge at Township Road 422 (Meadowfield Drive) in Derry Township.
- B13. Replace the Branch of Jacks Run bridge on Township Road 737 (Alfarata Road) in Decatur Township.
- B14. Continue to support full reimbursement for the Beaver Dam Run Bridge on Township Road 357 (Big Greenbriar Road) in Wayne Township.
- B15. Bridge maintenance and safety repairs for bridges throughout the county. (Unmapped)

- B16. Work with District 2-0 to provide additional width on the SR 3002/Charles Street bridge to accommodate additional left turn lane (to Dorcas Street) storage when the bridge is scheduled to be replaced. (Unmapped)

Multi-Modal (Rail/Highway) Improvements (See Figures 16-2 and 16-3 for locations):

Signals and other safety improvements at the following rail/highway intersections (at-grade crossings) and shared rail/street alignment:

- R1. U.S. 322, Lewistown – added to the TIP in Spring 2013; now shown as #19 on Figure 16-1
- R2. Entrance ramp to U.S. 322 off of Walnut Street, Lewistown
- R3. Walnut St (US 522), Lewistown
- R4. Signals for the Depot Street crossing, Lewistown
- R5. South Pine Street, Lewistown
- R6. Mill Road (SR 2005), Lewistown
- R7. Derry Township Park
- R8. Freedom Avenue (SR2002), Burnham
- R9. Mill Street, Yeagertown
- R10. N Derry Street (T403), Derry Township
- R11. Kish Pike, Lewistown
- R12. Explore improvements for the street-running rail along Chestnut Street and the mainline crossing at Round House Road. (unmapped)

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County, SEDA-COG
Time Frame: 2015-2019
Funding Sources: Various State/Federal Transportation Funds

AS #2. Continue to develop and enhance the county’s transportation planning services.

Recommendations

- 1. Continue to work toward a process to prioritize bridges for improvement based on need. Mifflin County has been working

with its bridge inspector to develop a process to inventory and prioritize bridge maintenance based on bridge condition, the traffic volumes served, etc. The process has not yet been finalized but should continue until a fair process can be defined.

2. Adopt a standardized distribution formula for sub-allocating Mifflin County’s Liquid Fuels monies and Act 13 (Marcellus Shale) funds. This formula should incorporate traditional criteria (i.e., highway miles and population) and performance criteria (i.e., traffic counts, crash statistics, potential impact on economic development, impact on emergency services, percent of cost the County would be funding, whether or not the project is included on PennDOT’s Twelve Year Program, and whether or not the municipality has received funding in the past).

Lycoming County’s method, which distributes liquid fuels tax funds based on various criteria such as traffic counts, crash statistics, potential impact on economic development, impact on emergency services, and various funding criteria (county share, state share, and previous funding), could also be considered. SEDA-COG can provide technical assistance in developing a data-based model to prioritize projects, if desired.

3. Assist SEDA-COG and PennDOT on their data collection for local roadways, bridges and local assets. PennDOT collects data about its own transportation facilities, or assets, and local bridges over 20 feet in length, which require inspection. It uses this inventory to assess the condition and lifecycle of its transportation facilities and estimating transportation maintenance and improvement needs in terms of projects and budget.
4. Provide a model ordinance for road bonding to maintain the condition of local roads under heavy use.
5. Evaluate opportunities to improve and manage access to priority economic development sites, resulting from Land Use Action Strategy #6, and including but not limited to industrial parks.

As transportation systems become more complex, an inventory of local transportation facilities and conditions can help prioritize needed improvements.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities
Time Frame: 2014-2015 and ongoing
Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT Planning funds

AS #3. Provide efficient and dependable county/regional public transportation services for all age groups and abilities.

Recommendations

1. Re-examine the findings and build on the recommendations of the 2002 Mifflin County Public Transportation Study.
2. Support the Mifflin-Juniata Agency on Aging in efforts to identify and meet the transit needs of transit dependent individuals.
3. In consultation with PennDOT, SEDA-COG and CATA, explore the feasibility of constructing park and ride lots at strategic locations within the county to facilitate the use of ridesharing and public transportation.
4. In cooperation with SEDA-COG and PennDOT, coordinate between Amtrak, Greyhound and Trailways Bus Lines to improve connecting services for persons commuting between Lewistown and State College.
5. Support continued passenger rail service from Lewistown.

Public transportation offers mobility to those unable to drive or find a driver for their travel needs.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: 2014-2015
Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT

AS #4. Expand bicycle and pedestrian travel facilities.

Recommendations

1. During land development reviews, recommend the provision of interconnecting pedestrian walkways and bikeways to facilitate access to areas of employment, transportation, and services, including recreation. Strongly encourage private commercial/employment-oriented development to provide bicyclists and pedestrians with necessary support systems, such as bicycle racks.
2. In cooperation with SEDA-COG and PennDOT, develop a detailed pedestrian/bicycle plan that demonstrates how to expand and improve sidewalk and trail facilities within the Planned Growth Area.
3. Encourage municipalities to include provisions for pedestrian and bicycle facilities in their respective ordinances.

4. Support improvements to Electric Avenue to accommodate bicycles lanes. Electric Avenue is the main roadway traveled to the Mifflin County High School. It was once a four-lane roadway and is currently striped as three lanes. In recent years, Mifflin County requested that PennDOT stripe bike lanes on the wide shoulders to promote bicycle use by students traveling to/from school. However, the pavement width is not sufficient for bicycle lanes per PennDOT's standards; some improvement is needed.
5. Explore the feasibility of trail development along:
 - a. The Juniata RiverWalk, connecting the Kish RiverWalk to the Stone Arch Bridge at Jack's Creek. From Jack's Creek, the trail could extend south of the Borough along the Juniata River. The Juniata RiverWalk West will parallel the river and primarily use utility rights-of-way and existing sidewalks up-river from Victory Park to an existing cement plant.
 - b. The Kish RiverWalk extensions north to Derry Township Park and south to Victory Park. Challenges to completing these extensions include crossing of Kish Creek and Route 22 to the south and the active rail line to the north. However, these important local connections will expand the reach and benefit of this urban trail.
 - c. A walkway from Victory Park to the proposed Granville Township Heritage Park.
 - d. The abandoned Kishacoquillas Valley Railroad from north of Yeagertown to Reedsville and to Bellville, 12 miles of continuous linear open space though it has reverted to private ownership.
 - e. The proposed bicycle/pedestrian connection along Green Ave. Extension that would link the Lewistown Intermediate School (former middle school) with the Blossom Hill development.

Bicycle and pedestrian pathways can be used for transportation and recreation. Both PennDOT and PA DCNR can provide funding to assist in developing these facilities.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: 2014-2015 and ongoing
Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT, County and Statewide Act 13 funds, Community Conservation Partnership Program

FREIGHT OBJECTIVE:

Improve, expand and market the county’s air- and rail-related facilities.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #5. Support the planning efforts for the Mifflin County Airport Master Plan.

Recommendations

1. Continue to provide input to the Mifflin County Airport Authority in its efforts to develop the Airport Master Plan. Strive for consistency with county and local planning efforts.
2. Foster a cooperative relationship between the Mifflin County Airport Authority and surrounding municipalities to ensure compatibility between the future Master Plan and local plans.

Air and rail freight facilities and services support job security and job creation.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County, Local Municipalities
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT

AS #6. Strengthen the county and region’s ability to provide continued rail freight transportation services.

Recommendations

1. Support the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority in efforts to sustain rail freight service and rail-reliant jobs in central Pennsylvania.
2. Support county businesses in their applications to funding programs, such as Pennsylvania’s Rail Freight Assistance Program, for new sidings and other rail facilities.

Priority Level: High
Responsible Entity(ies): County
Time Frame: Ongoing
Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT

SAFETY OBJECTIVE:

Support mobility and safety improvements across the transportation system.

ACTION STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

AS #7. Strengthen the County’s guidance in municipal transportation planning practices.

Recommendation

1. Support and participate in access management studies, particularly along routes such as US 522 where traffic volumes and speeds are greater. Studies should explore feasible access management through curbing, controlled driveway access, and limits to parking that fronts onto the roadway. (See also Land Use Plan).

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County

Time Frame: 2016-2017 and ongoing

Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT

AS #8. Work with PennDOT to improve safety along US 522, a designated highway of the National Highway System. Projects along the corridor may be eligible for state and/or federal transportation funding. Prioritize improvements within the Planned Growth Area to make this area convenient and attractive to new development and redevelopment.

PennDOT’s county maintenance department may be able to address minor improvements to the Route 522 corridor.

Corridor-wide Recommendations:

1. Address exposed drainage ditches with pipe.
2. Replace concrete drainage structures in ditches with at-grade drainage inlets.
3. Replace turn down end treatments with crash cushions.
4. Add raised pavement markers (RPMs) and centerline rumble strips, where crash data supports the need.
5. Add street name placards below intersection warning signs.
6. Improve intersection geometry for better sight distance and visibility. Add stop bars at major crossroads. Minor approaches, such as at Old State Road and Cookson Lane, should intersect at 90 degrees.

7. Replace all highway traffic signs in accordance with the retroreflectivity requirements of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Refer to Table I-2 of the MUTCD for more information regarding compliancy dates.
8. Consider installing retroreflective tape on all utility poles within the roadway clear zone.

Site-Specific Recommendations North/East of Lewistown:

9. At Mifflin County Refuse, replace the substandard stop sign with a standard (size) sign. Stop signs on minor approaches to roadways with posted speeds greater than 35 mph must be at least 36" across.
10. Replace advance four-leg intersection sign with STOP AHEAD warning sign (W3-1) on northbound approach of Alfarata Road before the horizontal curve.
11. At US 522/Walnut Street and Spring Street, replace traffic signal with ADA-compliant signal; provide pedestrian signal heads; restripe faded roadway markings; and close driveway access in front of stop bar on Spring Street.
12. At Chestnut Ridge Road, replace non-standard school crossing signs; provide school crossing signs in advance of crosswalks; and re-stripe faded crosswalks and stop bar.

Site-Specific Recommendations South/West of Lewistown:

13. At US 522/John St/SR3014 in McVeytown, replace curb ramps with ADA-compliant accommodation; restripe faded stop bars and crosswalks; replace traffic signal with LED-illuminated signal (8" heads on minor approaches); replace pedestrian push-button signing (arrows) in the SE quadrant to be consistent with button placement; and close the Minute Mart driveway closest to the intersection.
14. At US 522/Market Street in McVeytown, construct a channelized island to restrict left turn movements from Market Street to US/522; possibly convert Market Street to one way.
15. At US/522 at PA 747, consider pedestrian accommodations (push buttons on raised pedestals, etc.), if pedestrian traffic warrants.

Proper pedestrian facilities are needed for safe crossings of the busy U.S. 522 corridor in urban areas.

Priority Level: High

Responsible Entity(ies): County

Time Frame: 2016-2017 and ongoing

Funding Sources: SEDA-COG MPO/PennDOT

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APPENDIX A
SPECIAL LAND USE STUDY:
RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES

CONTENTS

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RENEWABLE ENERGY

Renewable energy refers to sources of energy that can be replenished in a short period of time. Some renewable sources are essentially infinite such as solar, wind and hydro power. Biomass and geothermal power can also be replenished, when properly managed. Renewable energy can be used as transportation fuels, to produce electricity, and for heating.

Clean, renewable energy is not new, however the scale of development and operation has changed over the past few decades. Enabled by advances in technology and incentivized by state and federal incentives in an effort to reduce the demand for fossil fuels and their impact on the environment, commercial energy production facilities have been built on a large scale. Specifically, wind farms and solar arrays have been built across large acreages of mountain tops and valleys that, in Pennsylvania, are highly visible from the surrounding landscape. More importantly, these commercial facilities have had significant environmental impacts. For their potential environmental and aesthetic impacts, proposals for commercial renewable energy facilities have faced resistance in some communities. Municipalities and counties have sought to manage and minimize these impacts through their planning policies and their land use and land development regulations.

This summary of renewable energy sources and environmental impacts was compiled from the Renewable Energy Center of St. Francis University, Loretto, PA.

Biomass contains stored energy that can be burned to produce heat and electricity or converted to gas, fuel or solid materials in other products (similar to petroleum's use in plastics).

Pros: Biomass can divert waste from landfills or collect methane from landfills that would otherwise be released into the environment. Biomass sources (plants) can be planted to reduce erosion and nitrogen runoff; when harvested, they either regenerate or are replanted.

Cons: Whether burned or converted to gas, biomass generates air pollution, which can include nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide, and particulates or other toxic contaminants. This is of greatest concern when biomass production results in greater chemical use.

Solar energy can be used to produce heat (or thermal energy) or electricity. Passive solar heating occurs when the sunlight shines through windows or is captured by stone or brick as radiant heat. Active solar heating also gathers sunlight and converts it to heat, but involves a fan or pump to move the heat to a chosen destination. Solar energy can generate electricity by concentrating light into heat used to convert water to steam, which spins turbines. Photovoltaic (PV) cells or panels can be placed in sunlight, converting the rays directly into electricity.

Pros: Solar energy is collected quietly. It does not release emissions into the air or hazardous chemicals onto the land or water.

Cons: While construction of the system does involve the use of hazardous materials, it is less than those that would result from the use of fossil fuels. Because sunlight is not concentrated at any one point, large areas must be covered to collect an adequate supply of it, although constructing them on preexisting buildings reduces this impact.

Wind can be harnessed to turn turbines to do work or to produce electricity. Because they are large structures reaching into the sky, they are highly visible. Some people enjoy seeing wind turbines, viewing them as kinetic sculpture and some find them aesthetically unpleasing.

Pros: Wind turbines emit no pollution, generate no waste, require no mining for fuel, and use negligible amounts of water. They have a small footprint and the land around them can be used for farming or forests.

Cons: Turbines and their access roads can fragment habitat. Because wind turbines are often constructed on mountain tops where the wind power is greatest, access roads can lead to erosion. Turbines can also negatively impact avian migratory paths and bats. Turbines are sometimes noted for producing sound and causing a shadow flicker.

REGULATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES IN MIFFLIN COUNTY

The development of renewable energy sources, both wind and solar, is being explored in Mifflin County. Biomass facilities have not been discussed publicly in Mifflin County but have been proposed elsewhere in Pennsylvania. This interest raises questions about the real potential for renewables energy, the impacts of commercial scale facilities, the anticipated duration of operations, and the appropriate regulation of such facilities. Since two wind energy companies have begun leasing land in the County, study emphasis was directed to wind energy. If commercial or private interest in solar, biomass or other alternative energy sources arises, the County may want to research the market trends and review model ordinances, such as those in the Cumberland County Planning Department's Alternative Energy Series.

Research on the degree and appropriate mitigation of environmental impacts from renewable energy production facilities is ongoing and public policy such as county and municipal ordinances should consider such research as it establishes procedures and standards for the construction and operation of renewable energy production facilities. If Mifflin County and/or any of its municipalities desire to enact regulations for renewable energy production facilities, they should review not only the current standards in use by municipalities across the state, but also the findings of recent research efforts to determine appropriate provisions and design and performance standards in the interest of protecting public health, safety and welfare.

RESOURCES

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) for the U.S. Department of Energy is the principal research laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). The laboratory is managed by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC, a partnership between Battelle and MRIGlobal. NREL also conducts

research for DOE's Office of Science and Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

The Renewable Energy Center of St. Francis University provides information and education about alternative energy solutions (biomass, geothermal, hydro, solar, and of course, wind). It also leads businesses, schools, and communities in the development of cost-effective, environmentally sound energy alternatives and municipal regulations.

The SEDA-COG Energy Resource Center provides energy conservation and renewable energy education, training and technical assistance primarily to residents, local governments, businesses, agriculture, building trades, non-profit agencies and schools throughout the SEDA-COG 11 county region. It assists the building trades and manufacturers to participate in the new renewable and efficient energy markets. It fosters the generation, on-site use, and local ownership of renewable energy within our region.

WIND ENERGY POTENTIAL

Wind power is the amount of energy that can be generated in a given area from wind speeds at a specific height. Wind speed is measured in meters per second (m/s) or miles per hour (mph). Wind power is divided into eight classes ranging from 0–7. See Table SP-1, Wind Power Classes.

Wind power classes of 1 or 2 are generally suitable for a small wind project. Small wind refers to turbines with blades of 4 to 8 feet in length that require only moderate wind speeds to generate enough power (electricity) for a single home. Wind power

Table SP-1 Wind Power Classes

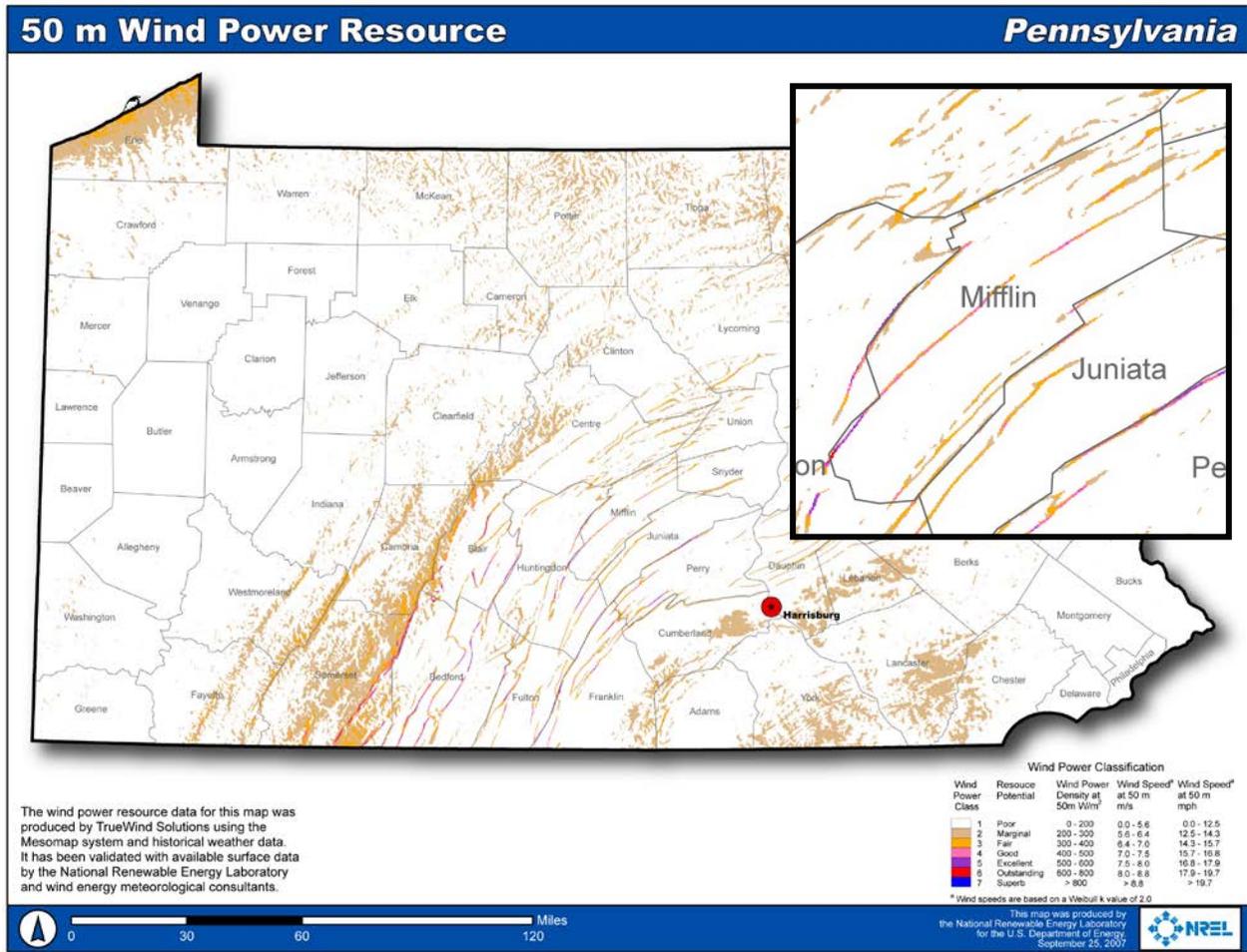
Wind Power Classes			
Wind Power Class	Wind Speed (m/s)	Wind Speed (mph)	Feasible Project Size
1	<5.6	<12.5	
2	5.6 - 6.4	12.5 - 14.3	Small Wind
3	6.4 - 7.0	14.3 - 15.7	Community Wind
4	7.0 - 7.5	15.7 - 16.8	
5	7.5 - 8.0	16.8 - 17.9	
6	8.0 - 8.8	17.9 - 19.7	
7	> 8.8	>19.7	

Source: SEDA-COG Energy Resource Center

classes from 3 and above are those that can produce enough energy to make the installation of a mid to large scale wind turbine economically feasible. Mid to large scale wind turbines have blades of 30 to 100+ feet in length with enough power output for 40 – 600 homes. These require much faster and more consistent wind speeds.

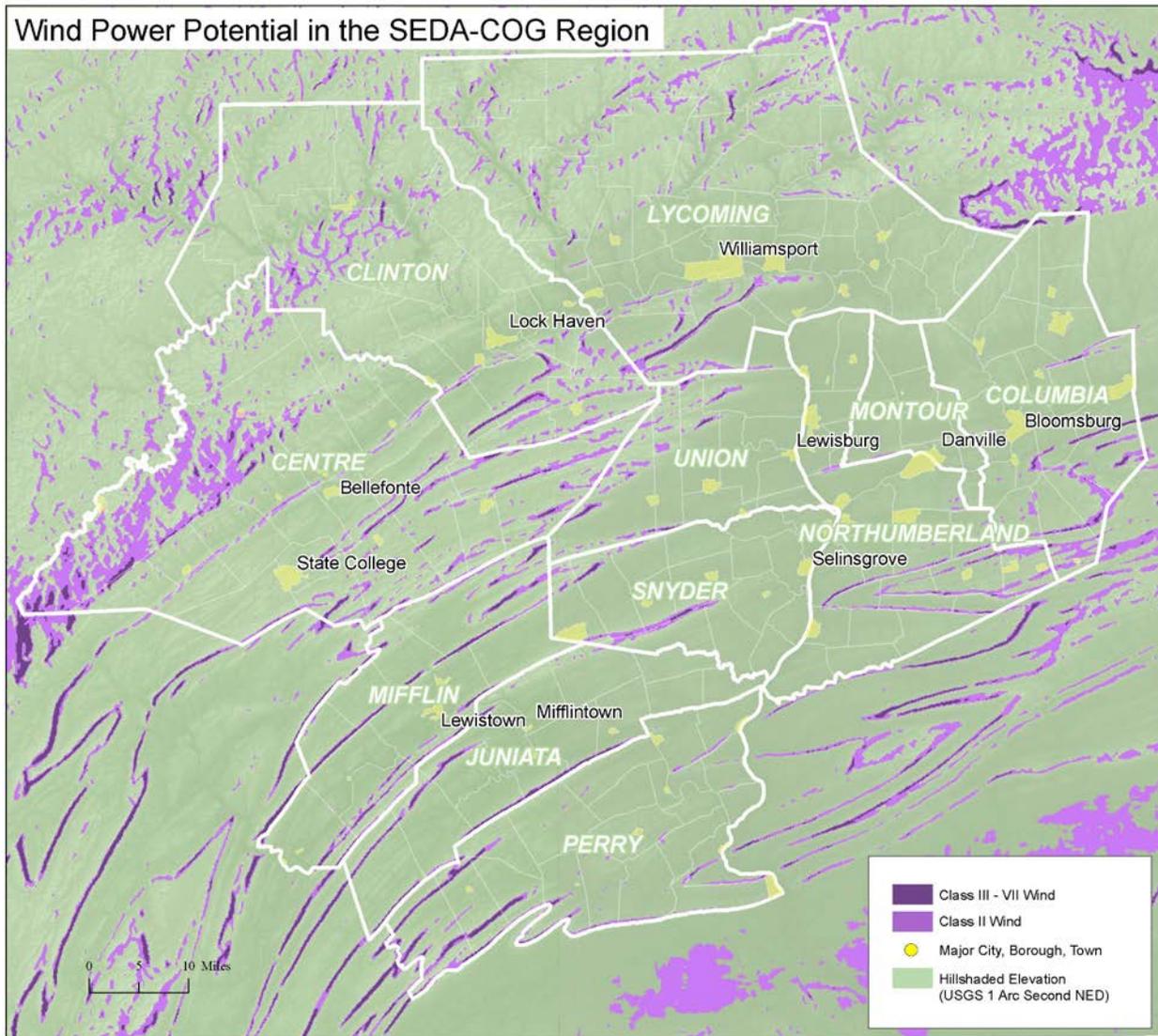
A wind map is a map with colored areas that indicate the potential wind speeds at various heights. In Pennsylvania, elevation directly relates to wind speed and therefore wind power. See Figure SP-1, Pennsylvania 50m Wind Resource Map, prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory. This maps shows wind classes ranging from 0-6 in Mifflin County with the highest wind classes along Jack’s Mountain in Wayne Township. Figure SP-2, Wind Power Potential in the Mifflin County, prepared by the SEDA-COG Energy Resource Center, shows summarized data for its service region.

Figure SP-1 Pennsylvania 50m Wind Resource Map



Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy, used with permission; enlargement by Gannett Fleming

Figure SP-2 Wind Power Potential in the SEDA-COG Region

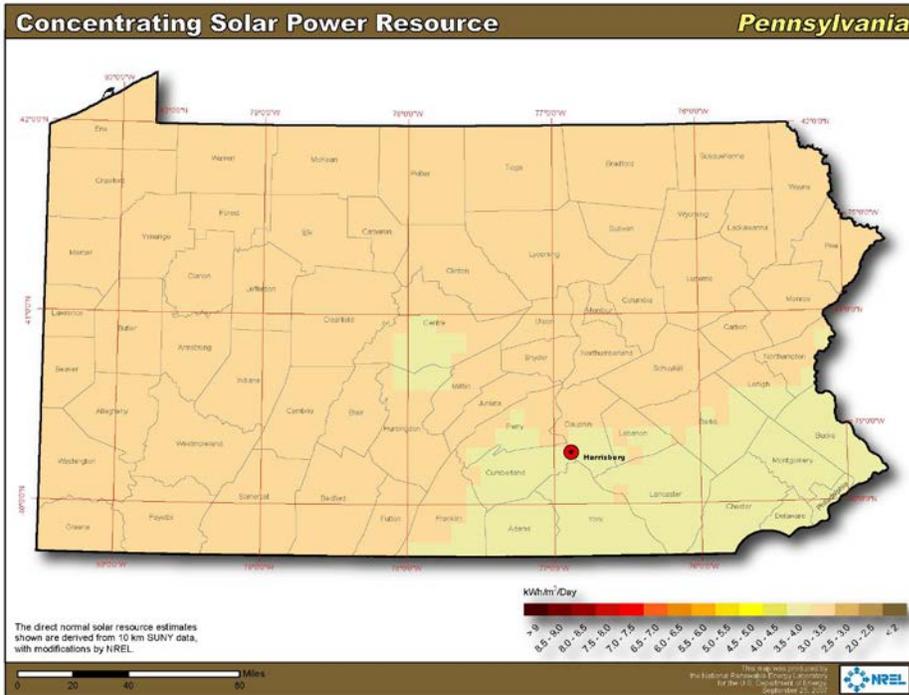


Note: See Table SP-2 for wind class criteria.

Source: SEDA-COG Energy Resource Center

Similarly, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory has prepared maps illustrating the solar power potential of Pennsylvania, specifically, concentrating solar power, which focuses sunlight using mirrors to concentrate solar energy to be used as a high temperature heat source and photovoltaic solar radiation, which converts solar radiation into direct current electricity. See Figures SP-3, Pennsylvania Concentrating Solar Power Resource Map, and Figure SP-4, Pennsylvania Photovoltaic Solar Radiation Resource Map. Pennsylvania’s solar power resources are below average for ranges shown. Like wind, small scale solar facilities can power a single home or business, but are generally not feasible for commercial scale energy production anywhere in the state.

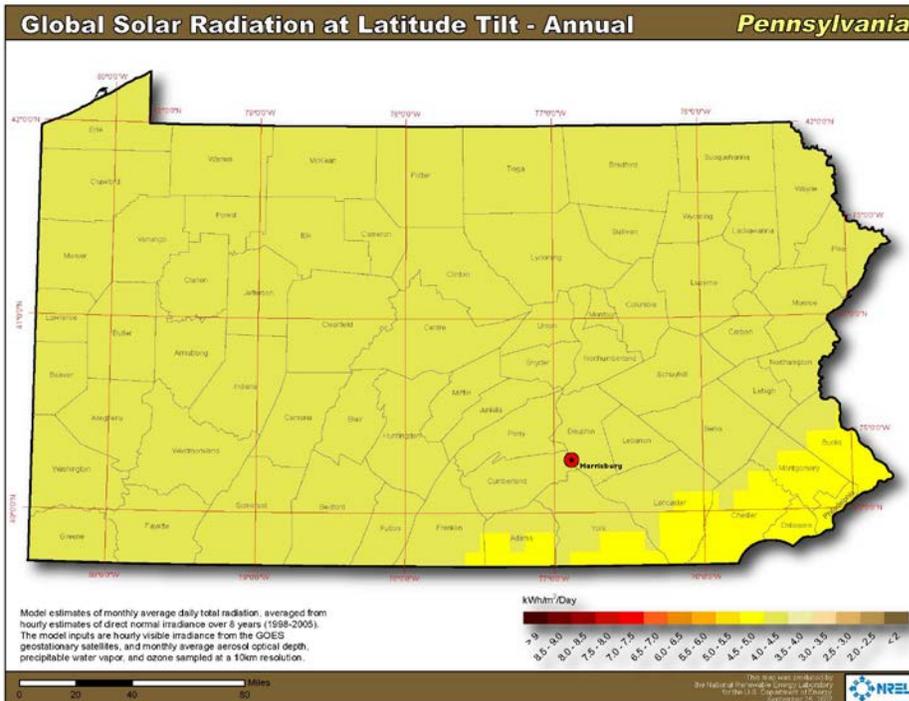
Figure SP-3 Pennsylvania Concentrating Solar Power Resource Map



Concentrating or concentrated solar power systems reflect and concentrate sunlight to create heat that drives an engine.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy, used with permission

Figure SP-4 Pennsylvania Photovoltaic Solar Radiation Resource Map



Photovoltaic systems convert solar radiation directly into electricity.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy, used with permission

ANTICIPATED PROPOSALS FOR ENERGY GENERATING FACILITIES

In 2011, representatives from Volkswind, a German wind farm development company, presented their vision for constructing wind turbines on Jack's Mountain to the Mifflin County Planning Commission. The company, established in 1993, has operating wind farms in Germany, France, England and Poland and developing projects in Iowa, Nebraska and Montana. Their vision for Mifflin County was wind farm of 37 2.5 mega-watt turbines over 8 miles of Jack's Mountain in Brown, Union, Granville and Oliver Townships. Each turbine would have a half-acre footprint and a total weight of 200 tons. With temporary and permanent access roads and an insulated, underground 34.5 kV collector line, the total project would disturb 100 acres of land within a total leased area of 1,200 acres. Additionally, the turbines could affect view sheds, noise, and wildlife. Its 92.5 MW total would power 259,296 homes a year.

Volkswind's approach to development was to proceed through two phases: feasibility and construction/operations. Tasks in the feasibility evaluation would include measuring the wind energy potential, studying potential effects on wildlife and environment, studying interconnection to the transmission grid, finding a buyer for the power and obtaining local, state and federal permits—a process lasts up to eight years and generates yearly acreage payments to leaseholders but does not disturb the land. The second phase, the construction and operating period, could last up to 30 years. This phase can include post constructions studies on wildlife.

As of July 2013, Volkswind had not submitted plans to local or county planning commissions but has spoken with private land owners about leases.

A second wind development project was discussed for Stone Mountain, spanning Menno Township in Mifflin County and Brady Township in Huntingdon County, in 2012. Both wind farms could be connected to the high intensity power lines just above Allensville. Municipalities in the Big Valley have asked for guidance from the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department in determining how to address anticipated pressures for wind farm development; Union Township adopted an ordinance in Summer 2013.

PUBLIC OPINION TO DATE

Members of the public have expressed their opinions about a potential wind farm on Jack's Mountain. There are many who say Jack's Mountain has a lot of natural resources and is a part of Mifflin County natural heritage. One resident spoke about her reasons for opposing the wind farm, including noise, impacts to deer habitat and bird migration, and the visual impact to the landscape. Many of the public have stressed their passion for the animals, birds in particular. Hang gliders have talked about the unique air flows on the mountain, making it worth a three-hour or more drive from New York, Pittsburgh and Washington D.C. on a regular basis. Others have wondered what will happen to the facilities if state and federal incentives expire.

Save Our Allegheny Ridges, an organization devoted to preserving Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains as a valuable scenic and wildlife resource, has been tracking the wind farm conversation in Mifflin County and encouraging municipalities to adopt regulations to minimize and to mitigate environmental impacts.

CURRENT COUNTY PLANNING AND POLICY

Mifflin County's planning studies and adopted policies provide baseline data on environmental conditions sensitive to development and a foundation for county and municipal regulations.

A NATURAL HERITAGE INVENTORY OF MIFFLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Natural Heritage Inventory investigates and documents local populations of species of concern at the state and global levels, assesses threats to them and their habitat, and makes conservation recommendations. This inventory, last updated in 2007, identified Jacks Mountain West (west of Mann Narrows, or the Route 322 corridor) as valuable habitat for the Timber Rattlesnake. In addition and due to its length, Jacks Mountain "provides an important corridor for wildlife, including raptor and songbird migrations, connectivity and dispersal of populations of forest inhabitants. The habitat is broken only occasionally by utility lines and small roads." For these reasons, the inventory designates the ridge and slopes of Jacks Mountain as core habitat area of notable significance, surrounded by supporting landscapes of forested foothills.

The inventory notes the most immediate threats to Timber Rattlesnakes as habitat loss and hunting. With regard to Jacks Mountain, habitat loss "through forest clearing or development, such as large-scale wind farms" are the primary concern. Landowner cooperation with resources agencies working to better survey local populations is needed, as well as public and private efforts limit forest fragmentation and use best management practices in forestry.

JUNIATA/MIFFLIN COUNTIES GREENWAY, OPEN SPACE AND RURAL RECREATION PLAN

The Juniata/Mifflin Counties Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan, adopted in 2010, further states Mifflin County's intent to protect Jacks Mountain. It restates its value "as core habitat area with no public land protection" and its vulnerability to degradation from development, logging, and other manmade influences. The Plan designates Jacks Mountain as a Targeted Conservation Area on Map 28, Conservation Recommendations Map.

OTHER RESOURCE INVENTORIES

Along Mifflin County's northern border, the Pennsylvania Audubon has identified portions of Rothrock State Forest and Stone Mountain as an Important Bird Area in the state. Along its eastern border lies the Tall Timbers, Snyder-Middleswarth Natural Area IBA.

The Important Mammal Areas program designated the 1,000 Steps (IMA #18), Blacklog Mountain (IMA #19), and the Central Mountains (#20), a series of ridges between Nittany Mountain to the north and part of Shade Mountain to the south, including portions of Mifflin County, as significant for their habitat and local population of a Pennsylvania-threatened species, the Allegheny woodrat.

These areas are protected as public lands or are included as a Targeted Conservation Area on Map 28, Conservation Recommendations Map of the Juniata/Mifflin Counties Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan.

OPTIONS FOR REGULATION

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) authorizes municipalities, including counties, to use zoning ordinances and subdivision & land development ordinances (SDLO or SALDO) to regulate land use within their borders. Zoning, an optional planning tool, can be used to designate specific areas of the municipality where renewable energy facilities may be located. The subdivision and land development ordinance can provide standards for site layout and setbacks, roads, etc. without or without zoning. In addition, municipalities may enact ordinances under their inherent “police” powers to protect public health, safety and welfare; these are known as nuisance ordinances. All of these ordinances may be used, in one form or another, in guiding the development of wind energy facilities in Pennsylvania’s municipalities.

SUMMARY OF WIND ENERGY ORDINANCES AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Several Pennsylvania counties, local governments, and local government organizations have addressed wind energy development in ordinances or guidance documents. While Somerset County has been one of the primary locations in Pennsylvania for wind energy development, developing wind as an energy source has become increasingly common in other locations in Pennsylvania due in part to the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act (Act 213 of 2004). Act 213 requires that electricity sold to retail customers in Pennsylvania by electric distribution companies (EDCs) and electric generation suppliers include specific percentages of energy generated from alternative energy sources such as wind energy. Act 213 incentivizes the growth and expansion of renewable energy in Pennsylvania so that the goal of having eighteen (18) percent of the Commonwealth’s energy provided by renewable sources by 2020 is achieved.

The Table SP-2 summarizes wind or alternative energy ordinances and guidance documents prepared by or for Pennsylvania counties and local municipalities. This table is not exhaustive.

Table SP-1 Summary of Wind Energy Ordinances and Guidance Documents in Pennsylvania

Municipality or Organization	Document Type	Summary	Referenced Document
PSATS/Pennsylvania Wind Working Group	Model Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Model Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Model Police Powers	Developed in 2007 through a working group including: the Governor's Office, PSATS, DCED, DEP, DCNR, CCAP, Penn Future, and other organizations/businesses included in the PA Wind Working Group.	Exhibit 1: Model Ordinance for Wind Energy Facilities in PA, April 2007
PSATS	Zoning Ordinance Amendment	As part of its Ordinance Database, PSATS had a copy of a municipal zoning ordinance amendment addressing wind energy. The municipality was not identified. The zoning ordinance amendment addresses windmills for residential wind energy generation and windmills for non-residential wind energy generation.	Exhibit 2: Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Windmills, October 2009
Cumberland County Planning Department	Guidance Document	As part of Cumberland County's Alternative Energy Series, the Wind Energy Facilities Fact Sheet provides information on the general mechanics behind wind energy generation and ordinance considerations.	Exhibit 3: Cumberland County Wind Energy Fact Sheet, May 2011
Cumberland County Planning Department	Model Zoning Ordinance Amendment	Provides guidance and requirements for access to and use of wind energy facilities.	Exhibit 4: Cumberland County Wind Energy Facilities Model Ordinance, May 2011
Lancaster County Planning Commission	Guidance Document	The guide provides planning and regulatory considerations for alternative energy systems including wind energy development.	Exhibit 5: Lancaster County Municipal Guide to Alternative Energy Systems, October 2010
Lycoming County Planning & Community Development	Zoning Ordinance	Includes a Wind Energy Facility Use provision as an institutional use and Small Wind Energy Systems as an accessory use to an individual home, multifamily residential use, office or business, and industrial and agricultural uses.	Exhibit 6: Lycoming County Zoning Ordinance, February 2011

Municipality or Organization	Document Type	Summary	Referenced Document
Lycoming County Planning & Community Development	Zoning Ordinance	Includes a Wind Energy Facility Use provision as an institutional use and Small Wind Energy Systems as an accessory use to an individual home, multifamily residential use, office or business, and industrial and agricultural uses.	Exhibit 6: Lycoming County Zoning Ordinance, February 2011
Somerset County	Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance	The ordinance addresses wind energy towers (section 1006) and tower facilities (section 1007).	Exhibit 7: Wind Related Provisions of the Somerset County SALDO
City of Erie, Erie County	Zoning Ordinance Amendment	The City of Erie addressed residential, commercial, and industrial wind energy development in a zoning ordinance amendment.	Exhibit 8: City of Erie Zoning Ordinance, 80-2005, amended through May 2012
Manheim Township, Lancaster County	Zoning Ordinance Amendment	Manheim Township adopted zoning ordinance amendments to address both wind energy systems and solar energy systems in 2009.	Exhibit 9: Manheim Township Solar Wind Ordinances, August 2009
Millcreek Township, Erie County	Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance Amendment	Millcreek Township amended both the township's zoning ordinance and subdivision and land development ordinance to address both small wind turbine systems and wind energy conversion systems.	Exhibit 10: Millcreek Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment, April 2009
Mount Joy Township, Lancaster County	Zoning Ordinance	The ordinance addresses both solar and wind energy. Windmills are identified as an Alternative Energy Source and permitted as an accessory use. Wind energy systems are identified as an Alternative Energy Source and permitted as a special exception use in the General Industrial District.	Exhibit 11: Mt. Joy Township Zoning Ordinance, April 2012

Table SP-1 Summary of Wind Energy Ordinances and Guidance Documents in Pennsylvania

Municipality or Organization	Document Type	Summary	Referenced Document
Shrewsbury Township, York County	Zoning Ordinance	Shrewsbury Township addresses wind facilities (wind farms) as Alternative Energy Sources under Electric Generation Facility. Permitted Accessory Use or Special Exception in Residential, Interchange, and Industrial districts.	Exhibit 13: Shrewsbury Township, York County, Zoning Ordinance, May 2010
Valley Township, Montour County	Zoning Ordinance Amendment	Valley Township amended its zoning ordinance to provide for the installation and use of wind energy facilities. The amendment addresses a Residential Energy System and a Wind Energy Facility for the purpose of generating electricity for non-residential uses.	Exhibit 14: Valley Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment, 2009
Washington Township, Berks County	Zoning Ordinance Amendment	Washington Township amended its zoning ordinance to include an Alternative Energy Ordinance addressing both wind and solar energy development.	Exhibit 15: Washington Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment, August 2010

REVIEW OF ANTIS TOWNSHIP, BLAIR COUNTY WIND TURBINE ORDINANCE

The wind turbine ordinance adopted by Antis Township, Blair County was presented to Mifflin County by Save Our Allegheny Ridges as a model ordinance. The Antis Township ordinance was reviewed and compared to the Model Ordinance for Wind Energy Facilities in Pennsylvania, the Cumberland County Wind Energy Facilities Model Ordinance, and additional wind turbine ordinances as noted. The purpose of the review was to determine if the Antis Township ordinance was too restrictive to be included as part of a compilation of similar ordinances assembled for the Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan update.

SUMMARY

The Antis Township wind turbine ordinance is consistent with several wind turbine ordinances adopted throughout Pennsylvania relative to criteria such as setbacks, noise thresholds, and fees. The ordinance appears to be more restrictive than most ordinances relative to requirements for water resource protection. It is recommended that the ordinance be included as an ordinance for Mifflin County municipalities to consider; however, the municipal solicitor should be consulted for the ordinance's applicability to that municipality.

REVIEW FINDINGS

The Antis Township wind turbine ordinance is included for reference as Exhibit 16. Two tables located as part of due diligence conducted for this assignment, compare several Pennsylvania wind turbine ordinances. The first table (Table SP-3 A-D) was prepared by Save Our Allegheny Ridges.¹ The second table, Wind Ordinances – Pennsylvania, (Table SP-4) was compiled by the American Wind Energy Association; no date is provided, however the latest entry is 2011.²

As noted in these tables, setbacks in the Antis Township wind turbine ordinance are comparable to other ordinances adopted throughout Pennsylvania. The noise level threshold of 45 decibels is the lowest of the thresholds identified, but is consistent with other ordinances adopted in the state. The permit fee of \$1,500 per proposed megawatt is consistent with several adopted wind turbine ordinances.

Overall, the Antis Township wind turbine ordinance is more restrictive than the Model Ordinance for Wind Energy Facilities in Pennsylvania prepared through a partnership between the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) and the Pennsylvania Wind Working Group. The Cumberland County model ordinance provides a range of options for provisions for setbacks and noise thresholds and the ranges identified are consistent with ordinances noted in the tables referenced herein.

Water resource protection appears to be the most restrictive component of the Antis Township wind turbine ordinance. According to the ordinance, wind turbine generator sites are to be

¹ Save Our Allegheny Ridges, *Wind Turbine Ordinance Comparisons*, 11/13/09. Accessed: 05/15/13.
http://www.saveouralleghenyridges.org/soar-documents/doc_download/10-pa-wind-ordinance-comparisons

² American Wind Energy Association, *State Wind Ordinances – Pennsylvania*. Accessed: 05/15/13.
<http://www.awea.org/learnabout/smallwind/upload/Wind-Ordinances-by-State-PA.pdf>

SPECIAL LAND USE STUDY: RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES

designed and constructed to avoid any disruption and/or interference with private wells, springs and/or other water sources. Specifically, water impacts during construction, not operation, are the source of concern. To document this requirement, the ordinance requires wind facility applicants provide written notice to all property owners and tenants within 2,500 feet of a site boundary stating the applicant will test their water well relative to quality and quantify prior to construction. The water report test is to be submitted to both the owner of the property and the Township. Neither the Model Ordinance for Wind Energy Facilities in Pennsylvania nor the Cumberland County model ordinance require water testing prior to permit issuance. Similarly, the provision to test adjacent property owners’ water wells for quantity and quality is not a provision commonly found in the ordinances included in Table SP-3 (A-D) and in Table SP-4 compiled by the American Wind Energy Association that follows.

Table SP-3A Wind Turbine Ordinance Comparisons

Ordinances	Blair County				
	PA Model, 2006	Antis Twp, 2006	Frankstown Twp, 2006	Logan Twp, 2006	Tyrone Twp, 2006
Setback to Civil Structures	Omitted	2500'	2000'	See Zoning	Omitted
Setback to Occupied Participating Building	1.1 x turbine height	1000'	600' (no less than 1.1x total height)	1.5 x turbine height	2500'
Setback to Non-Occupied Participating Building	5 x hub height	2500'	2000'	2500'	2500'
Setback to Property Line	1.1 x turbine height	1000'	1.1x total height	1.5 x turbine height	1000'
Setback to Historic & Natural Site	Omitted	2500'	Omitted	3000' to Horseshoe Curve	2000'
Noise	55 dbA to non-participating residence	45 dBC at property line of non-part residence	45 dbA to non-participating residence	45dbA to non-participating residence	Reasonable measures
Separate permit	Omitted	Yes	Yes	See SALDO	No
Permit Fee	TBD	\$2500/MW	\$1500/MW	See fee schedule	See fee schedule
Length of Permit	Omitted	30 years	30 years	See Zoning	See SALDO
Notice of Application to Adjacent Property Owners	Omitted	Within 2500' of boundary	Within 2000' of boundary	Omitted	Omitted
Agency Approval	Omitted	Yes	Omitted	Omitted	Yes

See table notes at end of table SP-2D. Acronyms: dbA – used in acoustics. dBc – used in telecommunications. MW – megawatt. SALDO – Subdivision and Land Use Ordinance
 Source: Save Our Allegheny Ridges www.saveouralleghenyridges.org 11/13/09

Table SP-3B Wind Turbine Ordinance Comparisons

Ordinances	Bedford County					
	Bedford Twp, 2007	E St. Clair Twp, 2007	Napier Twp, 2007	Snake Spring Twp	S Woodbury Twp, 2007	W Providence Twp, 2008
Setback to Civil Structures	Omitted	Omitted	2500'	2500'	Omitted	2500'
Setback to Occupied Participating Building	1.5 x turbine height	1.5 x turbine height	1000'	1.1 x total height	1.5 x turbine height	1500'
Setback to Non-Occupied Participating Building	5x hub height + 1.5 t height	1.5 x turbine height	2500'	2500'	5 x Hub Height	2500'
Setback to Property Line	1.5 x turbine height	1.5 x turbine height	2000'	2x total height	1.5 x Turbine Height	2000'
Setback to Historic & Natural Site	2000' to historic resources and structures	Omitted	Omitted	Omitted	2000' to historic resources	2500'
Noise	45dba to occupied bldg of non-participating landowner	45 dBA at occ bldg of non-participating residence	45dba to non-participating residence	See Note #13 (p. 10 of ordinance)	45dba to occupied bldg of non-participating	45 dBA at non-part prop line
Separate permit	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Permit Fee	See fee schedule	See fee schedule	\$2000/MW	\$1500/MW	See fee schedule	\$2500/MW
Length of Permit	25 years	Omitted	30 years	15 years	25 years	15 years
Notice of Application to Adjacent Property Owners	Yes	Yes	Owners within 2500' of boundary	Owners of structures within 2500' of turbine	Yes	Within 2500' of boundary
Agency Approval	Yes	Omitted	PA Fish amd Game	Yes	Yes	Yes

See table notes at end of table SP-2D. Acronyms: dBA – used in acoustics. dBC – used in telecommunications. MW – megawatt. SALDO – Subdivision and Land Use Ordinance.

Source: Save Our Allegheny Ridges www.saveouralleghenyridges.org 11/13/09

Table SP-3C Wind Turbine Ordinance Comparisons

Somerset County				
Ordinances	County, 1998	Allegheny Twp, 2007	Shade Twp, 2006	Quemahoning Twp, 2009
Setback to Civil Structures		Omitted	Omitted	Omitted
Setback to Occupied Participating Building		1.5 x turbine height	1.5 x turbine height	Omitted
Setback to Non-Occupied Participating Building	Tower height + 100 ft.	5 x hub height	1.5 x turbine height	Omitted
Setback to Property Line		1.5 x turbine height	3 x hub height of the non-participating landowner	4x hub height to non-participating landowner
Setback to Historic & Natural Site		Omitted	Omitted	Omitted
Noise	Omitted	55 dBA at occ bldg of non-participating	45 dB to property line of non-participating landowner	45 dBA to property line, 60dBC to property line; pre-non-participating construction noise studies are required
Separate permit	See SALDO	Yes	No	No
Permit Fee	See SALDO	\$500	\$2500/app.	To Be Determined
Length of Permit		20 years	Omitted	Omitted
Notice of Application to Adjacent Property Owners		Omitted	Omitted	Omitted
Agency Approval		Omitted	Omitted	Omitted

See table notes at end of table SP-2D. Acronyms: dBA – used in acoustics. dBC – used in telecommunications. MW – megawatt. SALDO – Subdivision and Land Use Ordinance.

Source: Save Our Allegheny Ridges www.saveouralleghenyridges.org 11/13/09

Table SP-3D Wind Turbine Ordinance Comparisons

Ordinances	Cambria County		Centre County	Luzerne County	Potter County
	Portage Twp, 2005	Elder Twp, 2006	Haines Twp	Rice Twp, 2007	County, 2008
Setback to Civil Structures	2000'	2000'	See Zoning	See Zoning	Omitted
Setback to Occupied Participating Building	600' (no less than 1.1x total height)	1.1 x total height	2500'	1500'	Omitted
Setback to Non-Occupied Participating Building	2000'	2500'	2500'	1500'	5x total height or 1,750 ft whichever is greater
Setback to Property Line	1.1x total height	1.1 x total height	2500'	1500'	1000' to non-participating property
Setback to Historic & Natural Site	Omitted	Omitted	2500'	Omitted	Omitted
Noise	45dbA to non-participating residence	45dbA to occupied bldg of non-participating landowner	45dbA to 2000'	55 dBA at site prop line	5 dB (A & C) above ambient sound at non-part prop line
Separate permit	Yes	No	No	See Zoning	Yes
Permit Fee	\$1500/MW	\$1500/MW	See fee schedule	See Zoning	\$500
Length of Permit	30 years	30 years	See Zoning	See Zoning	15 years
Notice of Application to Adjacent Property Owners	Within 2000' of boundary	Omitted	Omitted	Omitted	Yes
Agency Approval	Omitted	Omitted	2500' from IBA	Environmental Impact Statement	Setback approval required

See table notes at end of table SP-2D. Acronyms: dBA – used in acoustics. dBC – used in telecommunications.

IBA - Important Bird Area. MW – megawatt. SALDO – Subdivision and Land Use Ordinance

Source: Save Our Allegheny Ridges www.saveouralleghenyridges.org 11/13/09

Table SP-3 Notes (from source): As wind projects increase in Pennsylvania, many townships are enacting greater setbacks to protect non-participating landowners. Noise and Shadow flicker are the most common negative impacts to communities. Ordinances include provisions for landowners to sign setback waivers, thus negating a developer's argument that setbacks will kill a project. Wind developers usually compensate landowners who sign waivers, thus they can benefit financially, if they waive the setbacks. This gives more landowners an opportunity to benefit from the wind projects. Township officials are finding that it is much easier to regulate setbacks, than it is to rectify noise issues after the projects are in operation. Dr. Nina Pierpont, medical expert on health impacts caused by wind projects, and acoustic expert, Rick James, recommend that wind projects be located at least 1 mile from occupied dwellings.

WIND ENERGY FACILITIES MODEL ORDINANCE

MIFFLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PURPOSE

This model ordinance was prepared by Mifflin County Planning and Development Department to assist Mifflin County municipalities in regulating wind energy facilities through a zoning ordinance or a subdivision and land development ordinance. The model was prepared by reviewing adopted and model wind facilities ordinances from several Pennsylvania counties and municipalities, most notably Cumberland County Wind Energy Facilities Model Ordinance and Antis Township, Blair County.

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) provides local municipalities with the authority to establish provisions regulating the placement, construction, operation, and maintenance of energy projects including wind energy facilities through zoning ordinances and subdivision and land development ordinances. (MPC Sections 105, 301.a.4.1, and 707.4.viii.1)

A zoning ordinance enables a municipality to establish specific areas where wind energy facilities may be permitted. A subdivision and land development ordinance provides a municipality with control over set-backs, layout, design, etc., without control over location.

This model ordinance includes aspects of wind energy facilities that could be regulated. Language appropriate to a zoning ordinance is shown as the normal text. Language appropriate for a subdivision and land development ordinance is shown in [brackets] and would replace the preceding word or phrase.

Mifflin County municipalities should not adopt this ordinance without thorough review and modification. It is suggested municipalities review the model ordinance, modify its provisions and standards based on local needs, the current state of research on impacts and mitigation, and best practices across the state, and adopt a locally-tailored ordinance that can be administered and enforced.

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WIND ENERGY FACILITIES ORDINANCE

<MUNICIPALITY NAME>

Mifflin County, Pennsylvania

ORDINANCE NO. <#>

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, act of July 31, 1968, as amended, 53 P.S. §§ 10101 et seq., enables a municipality through its zoning ordinance [subdivision and land development ordinance (SALDO)] to regulate the use [development] of property and to promote the conservation of energy through access to and use of renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, <MUNICIPALITY NAME> seeks to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the community by adopting and implementing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance [SALDO] providing for access to and use of wind energy facilities; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Ordinance is to set forth requirements for wind energy facilities;

IT IS HEREBY ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the <BOARD/COUNCIL> of <MUNICIPALITY NAME>, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, as follows.

SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

APPLICANT – person or entity filing an application under this Ordinance.

DOCUMENTED SCENIC VISTA – a viewpoint that provides expansive views of a highly valued landscape and is documented in publication by a municipal or county planning agency.

FACILITY OWNER – the entity or entities having a legal or equitable interest in the Wind Energy Facility, including the respective successors and assigns.

GROUND CLEARANCE – the minimum distance between the ground and any part of the wind turbine blade, as measured from the lowest point of the arc of the blades.

HUB HEIGHT – the distance measured from the surface of the tower foundation to the height of the wind turbine hub, to which the rotor blade is attached. Refer to Figure 1.

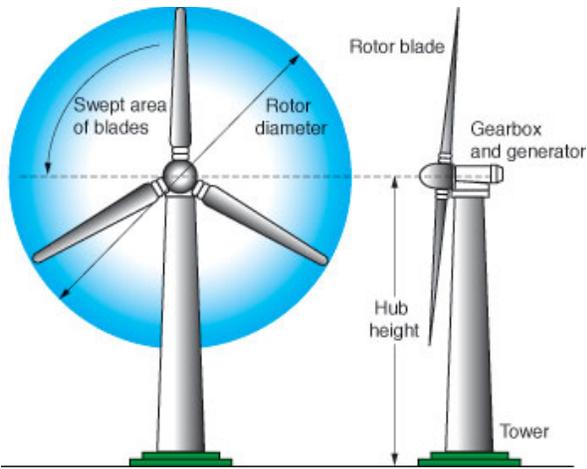


Figure 1.

Source: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

METEOROLOGICAL TOWER – a tower used for the measurement of wind speed.

NACELLE – Casing located on top of the tower on a horizontal axis wind turbine that contains the gear box, low- and high-speed shafts, generator, controller, and brake. Refer to Figure 2.

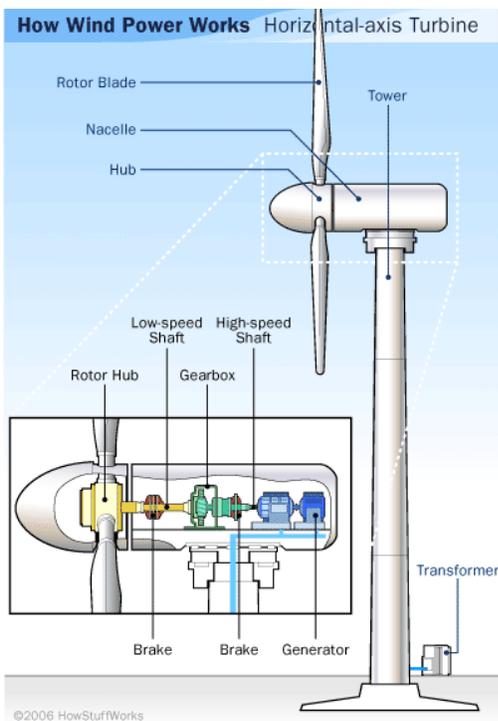


Figure 2.

Source: HowStuffWorks.

NON-PARTICIPATING LANDOWNER – any landowner except those on whose property all or a portion of a wind energy facility is located pursuant to an agreement with the facility owner or operator.

OCCUPIED BUILDING – a residence, school, hospital, church, public library, commercial building or other building used for public gathering at least six months of the year when the permit application is submitted.

OPERATOR – the entity responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the wind energy facility.

PARTICIPATING LANDOWNER – a landowner upon whose property all or a portion of a wind energy facility is located pursuant to an agreement with the facility owner or operator.

ROTOR – that portion of the wind turbine, i.e. blades and associated hub and shaft, which is intended to be moved or activated by the wind.

SHADOW FLICKER – alternating changes in light intensity caused by a moving wind rotor blade casting shadows on the ground and stationary objects

TOTAL HEIGHT – when referring to a wind turbine, the distance measured from the surface of the tower foundation to the highest point of a wind rotor blade when the blade is positioned at 90 degrees to the surface of the ground.

TOWER – the supporting structure of a wind turbine on which a rotor and accessory equipment are mounted. The basic types of towers include free standing (or monopole) or guyed lattice or tilt up (generally for smaller, residential towers). Refer to Figures 3 and 4.

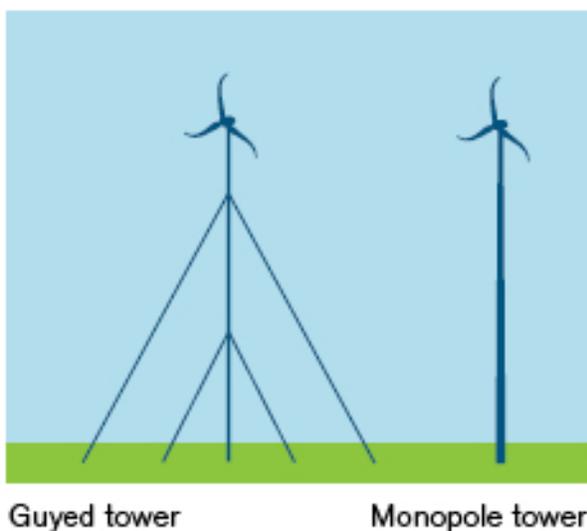


Figure 3.

Source: Southwest Building & Energy Technologies.

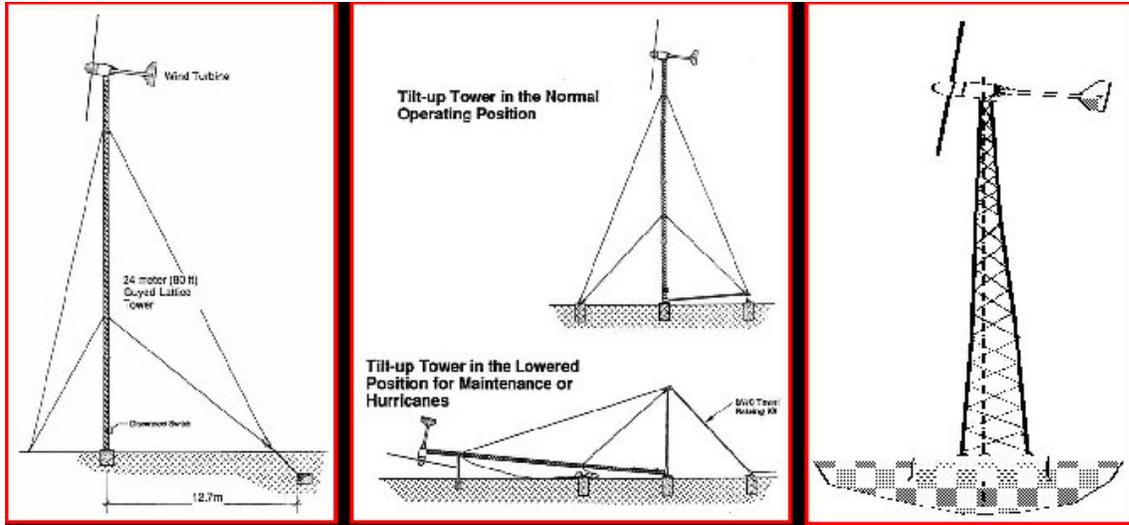


Figure 4.
Source: Four Winds Energy.

WIND ENERGY FACILITY – an electric generating facility consisting of one or more wind turbines and other accessory structures and buildings, including substations, meteorological towers, electrical infrastructure, transmissions lines and other appurtenant structures and facilities.

1. ACCESSORY WIND ENERGY FACILITY - a system designed as a secondary use on a lot, wherein the power generated is used primarily for on-site consumption.
2. PRINCIPAL WIND ENERGY FACILITY – a system designed as the primary use on a lot, wherein the power generated is used primarily for off-site consumption.

WIND TURBINE – a wind energy conversion system that converts wind energy into electricity through the use of a wind turbine generator, and includes the nacelle, gearbox, rotor, tower, and generator. Wind turbines are either horizontal axis or vertical axis. Refer to Figure 5.

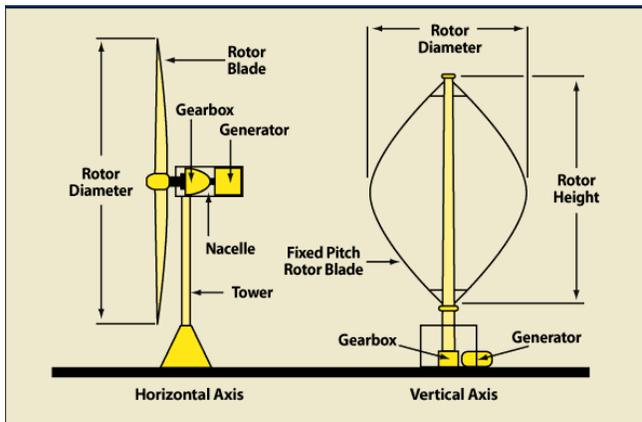


Figure 5.
Source: American Wind Energy Association.

SECTION 3 – ACCESSORY WIND ENERGY FACILITIES (AWEF)

A) Requirements

1. Zoning Ordinance: Accessory Wind Energy Facilities (AWEF) shall be permitted in all Zoning Districts as an accessory use. Applications for such uses shall be subject to the requirements set forth below, as well as all other applicable State or Federal Regulations.

[1. SALDO: No land development plan providing for the construction of Accessory Wind Energy Facilities (AWEF) shall be approved unless such plan has complied with the requirements of this ordinance.]

2. Permit Exemptions

i) AWEF constructed prior to the effective date of this Section shall not be required to meet the requirements of this Ordinance.

ii) With respect to an existing AWEF, any physical modification that materially alters the size, type and number of Wind Turbines or other equipment shall require approval under this Ordinance and meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, 34 Pa. Code Section 403.1-403.142 . Like kind replacements shall not require approval].

3. The layout, design, and installation of AWEF shall conform to applicable industry standards, including those of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Det Norske Veritas, Germanischer Lloyd Wind Energies, the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM), or other pertinent certifying organizations and comply with the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code and all applicable building and electrical codes of <MUNICIPALITY NAME>. The manufacturer specifications shall be submitted as part of the application.

4. Number of AWEF permitted per lot

1) A lot may have any number of building mounted and ground mounted AWEF assuming all other requirements of this ordinance are satisfied.

5. Noise

i) The sound produced by the AWEF shall not exceed 45 dBA as measured at the property line of existing non-participating landowners during normal operations and weather conditions.

ii) Noise limits may be exceeded during short-term events such as installation, utility outages and/or severe wind storms.

iii) Intermittent noise will be present during construction of the AWEF. The applicant shall require all contractors to incorporate reasonable noise reduction

measures to mitigate the amount of noise generated during the construction phase.

iv) Methods for measuring and reporting acoustic emissions from AWEF shall be equal to or exceed the minimum standards for precision described in American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) Standard 2.1 - 1989 titled Procedures for the Measurement and Reporting of Acoustic Emissions from Wind Turbine Generation Systems Volume I: First Tier, as amended.

6. When an accessory building is necessary for storage cells or related mechanical equipment, the accessory building shall comply with the accessory building requirements of the zoning district [SALDO].
7. The facility owner of an AWEF shall provide <MUNICIPALITY NAME> written confirmation that the public utility company to which the AWEF will be connected has been informed of the customer's intent to install a grid connected system and approved of such connection. Off-grid AWEF shall be exempt from this requirement.
8. All on-site utility, transmission lines, and cables shall be placed underground.
9. The display of advertising is prohibited except for identification of the manufacturer of the system
10. AWEF shall not be lighted except for any lighting required to comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Bureau of Aviation (BOA) regulations.
11. AWEF shall be painted a non-reflective, flat color such as white, off-white, or gray unless required to be colored differently from FAA or BOA regulations.
12. AWEF shall have an automatic braking, governing, or feathering system to prevent uncontrolled rotation, over speeding, and excessive pressure on the tower structure, rotor blades, and turbine components.
13. An AWEF shall not cause shadow flicker on any occupied building on a non-participating landowner's property.
14. No part of any AWEF shall be located within or above the required setbacks of any lot, extend over parking areas, access drives, driveways, or sidewalks.
15. The facility owner of the AWEF shall provide evidence that the facility owner's insurance policy has been endorsed to cover an appropriate level of damage or injury that might result from the installation and operation of the small wind energy system.
16. The facility owner of the AWEF shall ensure that the design and operation avoids disruption or loss of radio, telephone, television, cell, Internet or similar signals, and shall mitigate any harm caused thereby.

17. Decommissioning

- i) Each AWEF and related equipment shall be removed within twelve (12) months of the date when the use has been discontinued or abandoned by the facility owner and/or operator, or upon termination of the useful life of same.
- ii) The AWEF shall be presumed to be discontinued or abandoned if no electricity is generated by such AWEF for a period of twelve (12) continuous months.

18. Permit requirements

- i) Zoning/building permit applications [Applications] for AWEF shall be accompanied by standard drawings of the wind turbine structure and stamped engineered drawings of the tower, base, footings, and/or foundation as provided by the manufacturer. Permits shall show the location of the AWEF on the lot, lot lines, rights of way, adjoining occupied buildings, and above ground utility lines located on the lot. Permits must be kept on the premises where the AWEF is constructed.
- ii) The zoning/building permit [Application] shall be revoked if the AWEF, whether new or pre-existing, is moved or otherwise altered, either intentionally or by natural forces, in a manner which causes the AWEF not to be in conformity with this Ordinance.
- iii) For standard soil conditions (not including gravel, sand, or muck), foundations developed by the wind turbine manufacturer shall be acceptable for AWEF installations of 20kW or less and will not require project-specific soils studies. Applicants proposing projects involving substandard soil conditions or installations of AWEF greater than 20kW may be required by the Zoning Officer [Code Officer] to submit detailed soil studies.
- iv) The AWEF must be properly maintained and be kept free from all hazards, including but not limited to, faulty wiring, loose fastenings, being in an unsafe condition or detrimental to public health, safety or general welfare. In the event of a violation of any of the foregoing provisions, the Zoning Officer [Code Officer] shall give written notice specifying the violation to the facility owner of the AWEF to conform or to remove the AWEF.

B) Requirements for Ground Mounted AWEF

1. Ground mounted AWEF may be placed on lots of any size assuming they meet the height and setback restrictions found in this section.
2. Height for Ground Mounted AWEF

- i) AWEF height shall not be restricted assuming that the AWEF meets the setback requirements.
- ii) The minimum ground clearance for the AWEF shall be 15 feet.
- iii) Applicants shall file a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Bureau of Aviation (BOA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for any AWEF that is more than 200' in height.

3. Setbacks for Ground Mounted AWEF

- i) AWEF shall be set back from property lines, occupied buildings, above ground utility lines, railroads and/or road right-of-ways by a distance equal to no less than 1.1 times the total height.
- ii) AWEF shall be allowed closer to a property line than the prescribed setbacks if the abutting property owner(s) grants written permission in the form of a signed easement and the installation poses no interference with public utility lines, public roads and rail right-of-ways.

4. Number of Ground Mounted AWEF allowed per lot

- i) The number of ground mounted AWEF permitted on a lot shall be based upon lot size and follow the schedule below.

Lot Size	Maximum Number of Ground Mounted AWEF Per Lot
< 1 acre to 5 acres	1
5+ acres to 10 acres	2
10+ acres	3

5. Location

- i) Ground mounted AWEF are prohibited in front yards, unless the applicant demonstrates to the governing body (or zoning hearing board, in the case of special exception) that, due to wind access limitations, no location exists on the property other than the front yard where the AWEF can perform effectively

6. Safety and security

- i) The facility owner shall post electrical hazard warning signs on or near the AWEF.
- ii) Ground mounted AWEF shall not be climbable up to 15 feet above ground surface.

iii) Access doors to any AWEF electrical equipment shall be locked to prevent entry by unauthorized persons.

iv) All AWEF shall be surrounded by a minimum 6' high fence if the AWEF is not otherwise rendered not climbable up to 15 feet above the ground.

C) Requirements for Building Mounted AWEF

1. Building mounted AWEF may be located on any lot regardless of lot size.
2. Height regulations shall not apply to building mounted AWEF, provided the height does not exceed the limitations of the zoning district for which they are located [does not exceed the limitations in the ordinance] by more than fifteen (15) feet.
3. There is no limit on the number of building mounted AWEF assuming that the building is capable of supporting the load of the AWEF.
4. For building mounted systems, the applicant shall provide evidence that the plans comply with the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code and adopted building code of <MUNICIPALITY NAME> indicating the building is capable of holding the load imposed on the structure.

D) Permit Fee

1. Applicant will pay <MUNICIPALITY NAME> a permit fee of Three Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$300) for the AWEF. The permit fee shall be paid at the time the application is submitted. Fees shall not be returned where an application has been denied. The Borough/Township may modify this fee by resolution to keep the fee in line with the cost of administering the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4 – PRINCIPAL WIND ENERGY FACILITIES (PWEF)

A) Design and Installation

1. Zoning Ordinance: Principal Wind Energy Facilities (PWEF) shall be permitted by special exception/conditional use in the <NAME OF ZONING DISTRICTS> Zoning District(s). Applications for such uses shall be subject to the requirements set forth below, as well as all other applicable State or Federal Regulations.

[1. SALDO: No land development plan providing for the construction of Principal Wind Energy Facilities (PWEF) shall be approved unless such plan has complied with the requirements of this ordinance.]

2. Permit Requirement and Exemptions

i) PWEF constructed prior to the effective date of this Section shall not be required to meet the requirements of this Ordinance.

ii) With respect to an existing PWEF, any physical modification that materially alters the size, type and number of Wind Turbines or other equipment shall require conditional use/special exception approval under this Ordinance and meet the requirements of the UCC. Like kind replacements shall not require a permit modification.

3. The layout, design, and installation of PWEF shall conform to applicable industry standards, including those of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Det Norske Veritas, Germanischer Lloyd Wind Energies, the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM), or other pertinent certifying organizations and comply with all applicable building and electrical codes of <MUNICIPALITY NAME>. The manufacturer specifications shall be submitted as part of the application.

4. Applicants shall submit land development and/or subdivision plans which shall be compliant with all land development/subdivision ordinance requirements of <MUNICIPALITY NAME>.

5. The applicant shall provide sufficient documentation showing that the PWEF will comply with all applicable requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Bureau of Aviation (BOA).

6. The PWEF shall provide <MUNICIPALITY NAME> written confirmation that the public utility company to which the PWEF will be connected has been informed of the intent to install a grid connected system and approved of such connection.

7. All PWEF shall be equipped with a redundant braking system. This includes both aerodynamic over speed controls (including variable pitch, tip and other systems) and mechanical brakes. Mechanical brakes shall be operated in a fail-safe mode. Stall regulation shall not be considered a sufficient braking system for over speed protection.

8. Visual Appearance

i) All on-site utility, transmission lines, and cables shall be placed underground.

ii) PWEF shall be painted a non-reflective, flat color such as white, off-white, or gray unless required to be colored differently from FAA or BOA regulations.

iii) PWEF shall not be artificially lighted, except to the extent required by the FAA or other applicable authority. If lighting is required, the lighting alternatives and design chosen shall seek to minimize the disturbance to the surrounding views.

iv) The display of advertising is prohibited except for identification of the manufacturer of the system, facility owner and operator.

v) Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the PWEF.

vi) No PWEF shall be installed at any location that would substantially detract from or block the view of the major portion of a documented scenic vista, as viewed from any public road right-of-way or publicly-accessible parkland or open space within the Borough/Township.

vii) Accessory Buildings, Structures, Mechanical Equipment

(1) Accessory structures and equipment associated with PWEF shall be screened from any adjacent property that is residentially zoned or used for residential purposes. The screen shall consist of plant materials which provide a visual screen. In lieu of a planting screen, a decorative fence meeting requirements of the ordinance may be used.

(2) The design of accessory buildings and related structures shall, to the extent reasonable, use materials, colors, textures, screening and landscaping that will blend the structures into the existing environment.

9. Warnings and Safety Measures

i) A clearly visible warning sign concerning voltage must be placed at the base of all pad mounted transformers and substations.

ii) All access doors to PWEF including electrical equipment, outbuildings and all appurtenances thereto, shall be locked or fenced, as appropriate, to prevent entry by non-authorized personnel.

iii) Wind Turbines shall not be climbable up to 15 feet above ground surface and the climbing apparatus shall be fully contained and locked within the tower structure.

iv) A minimum six (6) foot high fence with a locking gate shall be placed around the PWEF. The fence may be located within the required setback.

v) Visible, reflective, colored objects, such as flags, reflectors or tape shall be placed on the anchor points of guy wires and along the guy wires up to a height of ten (10') feet from the ground.

vii) The applicant will provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to local emergency services.

viii) Facility owner and/or operator shall abide by all applicable local, state and federal fire code and emergency guidelines.

B) Requirements

1. Lot size

i) Zoning Ordinance: Lot size shall comply with the zoning district and be in conformance with the required setbacks set forth below.

[i) SALDO: A minimum lot size of five (5) acres shall be required. In addition, lot size shall be in conformance with the required setbacks set forth below.]

ii) Wind Turbines shall be separated from each other by a minimum of 1.1 times the total height of the highest wind turbine.

2. Setbacks

i) Wind Turbines shall be set back from the nearest property line a distance of not less than the normal setback requirements for the zoning district [of the SALDO] or 1.1 times its total height, whichever is greater. If the nearest property line abuts a non-participating parcel, the minimum setback shall be 1,000 feet.

ii) Wind Turbines shall be set back from a building on a non-participating landowner's property not less than 2,500 feet measured from the center of the wind turbine base to the nearest point on the foundation of the occupied building.

iii) Wind Turbines shall be set back from a building on a participating landowner's property not less than 1.1 times its total height measured from the center of the wind turbine base to the nearest point of foundation of the occupied building. Any operator-occupied building used in connection with the development is exempt from this distance limit. In the event that a lesser distance is desired, the Applicant shall request a waiver to this provision pursuant to the requirements of this Ordinance.

iv) Wind Turbines shall be set back from the nearest public road a distance of no less than 1,000 feet, determined at the nearest boundary of the right-of-way for such public road. Unless conclusive evidence exists to the contrary, the public road right-of-way is presumed to be 50 feet, centered on the roadway centerline.

v) Each Wind Turbine shall be set back from above-ground electric power lines, public telephone lines and television cable lines a distance of no less than 1,000 feet. No wind turbine or any part of the permanent structure will be constructed within 1,000 feet of a gas pipeline.

- vi) Each Wind Turbine shall be set back from surface water supplies, e.g. reservoirs, a distance of no less than 1,000 feet.
- vii) Each Wind Turbine shall be set back from any other Wind Turbine a distance of no less than 1.1 times its total height.
- viii) Each Wind Turbine generator shall be set back a distance of no less than 1,000 feet from the outer edge of natural areas identified in the Mifflin County Natural Area Inventory as shown in the County GIS data set.
- ix) Each wind turbine generator shall be set back a distance of no less than 2,500 feet from existing historic and cultural resource areas of <MUNICIPALITY NAME> (at the time of the building permit issuance):
 - (1) Historic structure or resource listed in the Pennsylvania Register of Historic Places, as determined by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.
 - (2) A documented scenic vista, as viewed from any public road right-of-way or publicly-accessible parkland or open space within the Borough/Township.
 - (3) Lands protected by conservation easements.
- x) Accessory buildings, structures, and related equipment to the PWEF shall comply with the building setback requirements of the zoning district [SALDO].

3. Variance for Setbacks

- i) Variance for setback requirements may be granted only upon review and approval of the Zoning Hearing Board.
- ii) Public notice must be provided per the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance
- iii) Any variance granted shall be recorded in the Recorder of Deeds Office for Mifflin County. The variance shall describe the properties benefited and burdened, and advise all subsequent purchasers of the burdened property that variance of setback shall run with the land and may forever burden the subject property.

[3. Waiver of Setbacks

- i) Property owners may waive the setback requirements for buildings on non-participating landowner's property and property lines by signing a waiver that sets forth the applicable setback provision(s) and the proposed changes.
- ii) The written waiver shall notify the property owner(s) of the setback required by this Ordinance, describe how the proposed PWEF is not in compliance, and

state that consent is granted for the Facility to not be setback as required by this Ordinance.

iii) Any such waiver shall be recorded in the Recorder of Deeds Office for Mifflin County. The waiver shall describe the properties benefited and burdened, and advise all subsequent purchasers of the burdened property that the waiver of setback shall run with the land and may forever burden the subject property.]

4. Height

i) There shall be no specific height limitation, so long as the total height meets sound and setback requirements, except as imposed by FAA regulations.

ii) The minimum Ground Clearance shall be thirty (30) feet.

5. No PWEF shall be located on a lot of record containing slopes equal to or exceeding 15% on 50% or more of the lot of record. This standard shall apply to each lot where a PWEF extends across multiple lots of record.

C) Operational Standards

1. Registration of Address

i) Prior to the construction of an access road to a site (well, windmill, communications tower or other rural industrial facility) the operator shall request a street address for the site from the Mifflin County GIS Office.

ii) The operator and a representative of the Mifflin County GIS Office will determine the GPS coordinates of the actual site and entrance road to the site. If there is more than one facility on a site, each facility will be assigned a unique identifier (i.e. Tower 1, 2, 3 or Well 1, 2, 3) and GPS location

iii) The operator (or Mifflin County GIS Office) shall register the following with the Public Safety Answering Point (911 Center) and Office of Public Safety.

(1) Site Identifier.

(2) Site Address.

(3) GPS Coordinates for the entrance and site(s)/facilities.

iv) When there is a change in the site address, the operator shall register the new address as provided in paragraph (iii).

v) When there is a change in entrance due to a change in site address or otherwise, the operator shall update the GPS coordinates with the Mifflin County GIS Office as provided in paragraph (3) and update the Public Safety Answering Point (911 Center) and Office of Public Safety.

vi) The following shall be retained at the site for reference when contacting emergency responders:

- (1) Site Identifier.
- (2) Site Address.
- (3) GPS Coordinates for the entrance and site(s)/facilities.

2. Signage

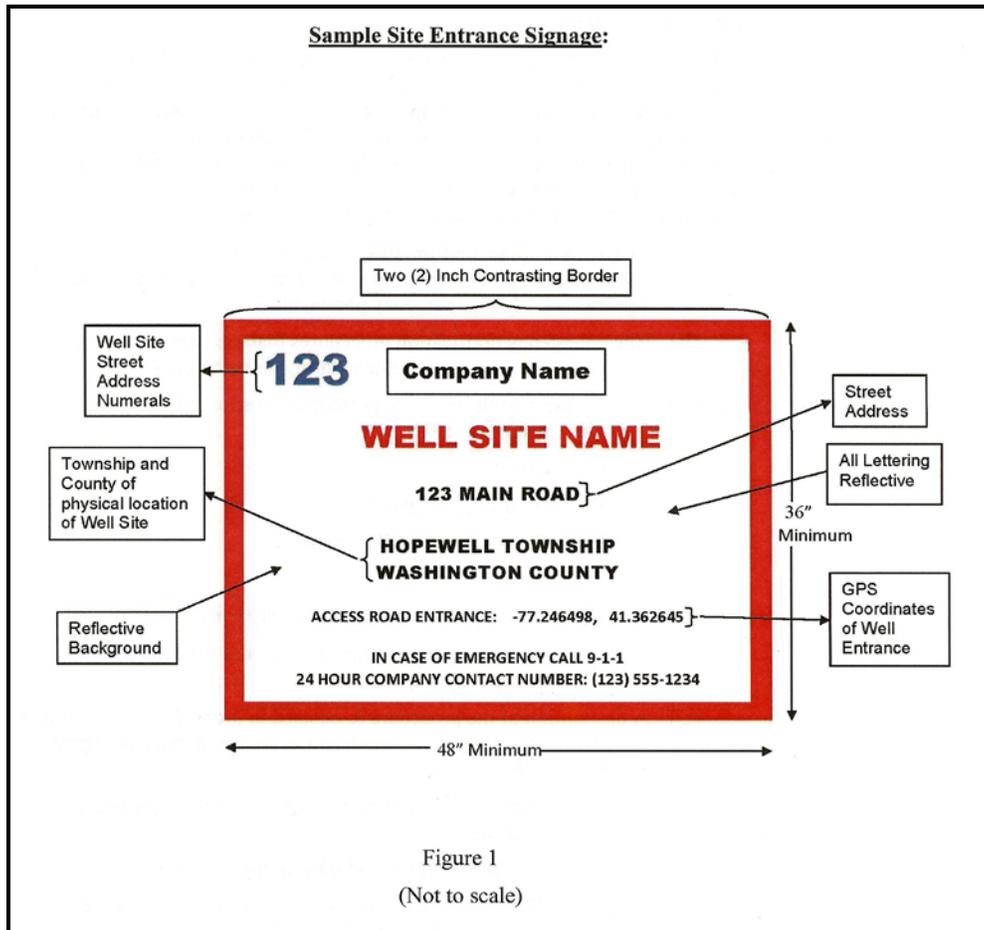
i) Prior to the construction of an access road, the operator of a rural site shall display a reflective sign at the entrance.

ii) The sign shall meet the following:

- (1) The sign shall be fabricated with approved retro-reflective sheeting material meeting ASTM 4956 Type III standards.
- (2) The sign shall have a white background with a two (2) inch red border and black numbers/letters. Signs for entrances on administrative roads may use other colors, provided that the signs use contrasting colors between the background and, the border, numbers and letters.
- (3) The sign shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the required information described in this section, but a minimum shall be thirty-six (36) inches in height and forty-eight (48) inches in width.
- (4) The sign shall follow the format in Figure 6, and shall contain the following:
 - a. The address for the site once it is assigned, displayed horizontally on the first line of the sign in text no smaller than four (4) inches in height.
 - b. The full address of the entrance, once assigned including the County and Municipality in which the entrance is located.
 - c. The Site/Facility operator's company name
 - d. The twenty-four hour contact telephone information for the operator of the site/facility.
 - e. The GPS coordinates for the entrance.
 - f. The site/facility identifier.
 - g. The wording "In case of an emergency, Call 9-1-1"

- (5) The sign shall be mounted independently of other signage.
- (6) The bottom of the sign shall be positioned a minimum of three (3) feet above the ground level.
- (7) The sign shall contain no other markings.
- (8) Signs as viewed from the applicable road, shall not be obstructed from view by vegetation, equipment, vehicles or other obstructions.

Figure 6.



3. Use of Public Roads

- i) The applicant shall identify all state and local public roads to be used within <MUNICIPALITY NAME> to transport equipment and parts for construction, operation or maintenance of the PWEF.
- ii) <MUNICIPALITY NAME> engineer, or a qualified third party engineer hired by the Borough/Township and paid for by the applicant, shall document public road conditions prior to construction of the PWEF. The engineer shall document

road conditions within thirty (30) days after construction of the permitted project is complete, or as soon thereafter as weather may allow.

iii) <MUNICIPALITY NAME> shall require applicant to secure a bond for the road(s) to be used within the Borough/Township in compliance with applicable regulations at an amount consistent therewith; or, if not provided by regulation, an amount set at the discretion of the governing body in consultation with <MUNICIPALITY NAME>'s engineer.

iv) Any road damage caused by the applicant, facility owner, operator, or contractors shall be promptly repaired (within 14 days) to <MUNICIPALITY NAME>'s satisfaction at the expense of the applicant and/or facility owner.

v) The applicant shall demonstrate that it has appropriate financial assurance to ensure the prompt repair of damaged public roads.

vi) Every effort should be made to use existing roads and logging roads. New deforestation and forest fragmentation should be kept to a minimum. Private entrance roads to PWEF must be maintained in a mud-free condition.

4. Noise

i) Audible sound from a PWEF shall not exceed 45 dBA, as measured at the property line of existing non-participating landowner's property.

ii) Noise limits may be exceeded during short-term events such as installation, utility outages and/or severe wind storms

iii) Methods for measuring and reporting acoustic emissions from PWEF shall be equal to or exceed the minimum standards for precision described in American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) Standard 2.1 - 1989 titled Procedures for the Measurement and Reporting of Acoustic Emissions from Wind Turbine Generation Systems Volume I: First Tier, as amended.

5. A Wind Turbine shall not cause vibrations through the ground which are perceptible beyond the property line of the parcel on which it is located.

6. Shadow Flicker.

i) Shadow flicker on any occupied building on a non-participating landowner's property shall be limited to one of the following:

1. No more than 30 minutes per day.
2. No more than 30 hours per year.

ii) A PWEF shall be designed in such a manner as to minimize shadow flicker on a roadway.

iii) The facility owner and operator shall conduct, at the applicant's expense, a modeling study demonstrating that shadow flicker shall not occur on any occupied building on a non-participating property.

7. Waiver of Noise and Shadow Flicker Provisions

i) Non-participating landowners may waive the noise and shadow flicker provisions of this Ordinance at the request of the participating landowners or PWEF owner by signing a waiver of their rights.

ii) The written waiver shall notify the non-participating landowner(s) of the sound or flicker limits in this Ordinance, describe the impact on the non-participating landowner(s), and state that the consent is granted for the PWEF to not comply with the sound or flicker limit in this Ordinance.

iii) Any such waiver shall be recorded in the Recorder of Deeds Office of Mifflin County. The waiver shall describe the properties benefited and burdened, and advise all subsequent purchasers of the burdened property that the waiver of sound or flicker limit shall run with the land and may forever burden the subject property.

8. Facility owner and/or operator shall ensure that the design and operation of any PWEF avoids disruption or loss of radio, telephone, television, cell, Internet or similar signals, and shall mitigate any harm caused thereby.

9. The applicant shall provide a proposed foundation design and analysis of soil conditions by a professional engineer.

10. Public Inquiries and Complaints

i) The facility owner and operator shall maintain a phone number and identify a responsible person for the public to contact with inquiries and complaints throughout the life of the project.

ii) The facility owner and operator shall make efforts to respond to the public's inquiries and complaints.

iii) The facility owner and operator shall keep a record of all such inquiries and complaints and shall submit a report thereof to <MUNICIPALITY NAME> on a quarterly basis stating the status of each inquiry or complaint, all action taken, and a timeline to resolve all outstanding issues..

11. Facility owner shall maintain the following insurance coverage:

i) Project shall maintain general liability insurance covering bodily injury and property damage with limits of at least \$1 million per occurrence and \$1 million

in the aggregate, with certificates provided to the <MUNICIPALITY NAME>/ county upon request.

ii) Worker's compensation coverage in an amount required by Pennsylvania law. Facility owner shall require subcontractors and others not protected under its insurance to obtain and maintain worker's compensation and employers' liability insurance; and

iii) Umbrella liability insurance with coverage to be in excess of the insurance required above. Limits of liability shall not be less than \$3,000,000 for each occurrence and \$3,000,000 in aggregate; and

iv) <MUNICIPALITY NAME> shall be identified as an additional insured on all insurance policies referenced herein. No policy of insurance shall be cancelled without first providing the Borough/Township with at least 30 days prior written notice of intent to cancel.

v) Certificates of insurance evidencing compliance with these requirements shall be provided to the <MUNICIPALITY NAME>. All policies other than workers compensation shall be written on an occurrence and not on a claims made basis.

vi) Coverage limits contained in this Section may be revisited by <MUNICIPALITY NAME> from time to time. The facility owner will be required to provide updated insurance certificates to document the amended adequate coverage limits.

12. Decommissioning

i) The facility owner or operator shall, at his expense, complete decommissioning of the PWEF and all related improvements within twelve (12) months of the date when the use of the particular PWEF has been discontinued or abandoned by the facility owner and/or operator, or upon termination of the useful life of same. The PWEF shall be presumed to be discontinued or abandoned if no electricity is generated by such PWEF for a continuous period of twelve (12) months.

ii) Decommissioning shall include removal of wind turbines, buildings, cabling, electrical components, roads, foundations to a depth of 36 inches, and any other associated facilities.

iii) Disturbed earth shall be graded, re-seeded and/or reforested to reclaim the site back to its predevelopment condition, based on the subdivision/land development plan or documented predevelopment condition, unless the landowner requests in writing that the access roads or other land surface areas not be restored.

iv) An independent and certified Professional Engineer shall be retained by the owner/operator at their expense to estimate the cost of decommissioning without regard to salvage value of the equipment. Said estimates shall be submitted to <MUNICIPALITY NAME> after the first year of operation and every fifth year thereafter.

v) The facility owner or operator shall post and maintain decommissioning funds in an amount (100% or 110%) of the identified decommissioning costs, as adjusted over time. The decommissioning funds shall be posted and maintained with a bonding company or Federal or Commonwealth chartered lending institution chosen by the facility owner or operator and participating land owner posting the financial security, provided that the bonding company or lending institution is authorized to conduct business within the Commonwealth and is approved by <MUNICIPALITY NAME>.

vi) Decommissioning funds may be in form of a performance bond, surety bond, letter of credit, corporate guarantee or other form of financial assurance as may be acceptable to the Borough/Township.

vii) If the facility owner or operator fails to complete decommissioning within the period prescribed by paragraph 12.(i) above, then the land owner shall have six (6) months to complete the decommissioning.

viii) If neither the facility owner or operator, nor the landowner complete decommissioning within the periods described by paragraphs 12.(i) and 12.(vii) above, then <MUNICIPALITY NAME> may take such measures as necessary to complete decommissioning. The entry into and submission of evidence of a participating land owner agreement to the Borough/Township shall constitute agreement and consent of the parties to the agreement, their respective heirs, successors and assigns that the Borough/Township may take such action as necessary to implement the decommissioning plan.

ix) The escrow agent shall release the decommissioning funds when the facility owner or operator has demonstrated and <MUNICIPALITY NAME> concurs that decommissioning has been satisfactorily completed, or upon written approval of the Borough/Township in order to implement the decommissioning plan.

D) Application Requirements. A conditional use/special exception application for a PWEF shall include the following:

1. A narrative describing the proposed PWEF, including an overview of the project, the project location, the approximate generating capacity of the PWEF, the approximate number, representative types and height or range of heights of Wind Turbines to be

constructed including their generating capacity, dimensions and respective manufacturers, and a description of ancillary facilities.

2. An affidavit or similar evidence of agreement between the property owner and the facility owner or operator demonstrating that the facility owner or operator has the permission of the property owner to apply for necessary permits for construction and the operation of the PWEF and setting forth the applicant's and property owner's name, address and phone number.
3. Identification of the properties on which the proposed PWEF will be located, and the properties adjacent to where the PWEF will be located.
4. A site plan showing the planned location of each Wind Turbine, property lines, setback lines, access road and turnout locations, substation(s), electrical cabling from the PWEF to the substation(s), ancillary equipment, buildings, and structures, including permanent meteorological towers, associated transmission lines and layout of all structures within the geographical boundaries of any applicable setback.
5. A Decommissioning Plan sufficient to demonstrate compliance with Section C.10 above.
6. A wind resource study shall be submitted documenting wind resources at the site at the height of the proposed wind turbines. The study shall include but is not limited to data showing average wind speeds capable of generating electricity and the available capacity to transmit the electricity into the power grid.
7. A noise study in accordance with Section C.2 above.
8. A shadow flicker study in accordance with Section C.4 above.
9. Other relevant studies, reports, certifications and approvals as required by this Ordinance or as may be requested by the Borough/Township to ensure compliance with this Ordinance.
10. Throughout the permit process, the applicant shall promptly notify the Borough/Township of any changes to the information contained in the conditional use/special exception permit application. Changes to the pending application that do not materially alter the initial site plan may be adopted without a renewed public hearing.

E) Permit Fee, Review Procedures, and Issuance

1. Permit Fee - Applicant will pay <MUNICIPALITY NAME> a permit fee of One Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,500) per proposed megawatt for each wind turbine generator. The permit fee shall be paid at the time the application is submitted. Fees shall not be returned where an application has been denied. The Borough/Township may modify this fee by resolution to keep the fee in line with the cost of administering the provisions of this Ordinance.

2. Duration of Permit - A permit issued shall be valid for a period of thirty (30) years. Permits are non-renewable and any PWEF operator wishing to continue operation must reapply for a new permit under this ordinance. Any permit granted under this Ordinance is not assignable or transferable to any other person, firm or corporation, whether by operation of law or otherwise, without the express prior written consent of <MUNICIPALITY NAME>.

3. Notice of Application - The Applicant must provide written notice of application to all property owners and tenants occupying property within 2,500 feet of the boundaries of the property upon which the PWEF will be located. Proof of service of such notice by Certified Mail or notarized Affidavit of hand delivery must be provided with the application.

4. Revocation of Permit - The following reasons shall constitute cause to revoke a permit issued under this Ordinance. Below is a partial list and <MUNICIPALITY NAME> reserves the right to revoke a permit for violation of any other provision contained in this Ordinance.

i) If Facility Owner ceases to operate the wind energy facility provided, however, that Facility Owner shall not be deemed to have ceased operating the wind energy facility if Facility Owner ceases operations for all or substantially all of the wind energy facility for a period not exceeding 6 months;

ii) If a petition is filed by Facility Owner under any bankruptcy, reorganization, arrangement, insolvency, dissolution or liquidation law of any jurisdiction, whether now or hereafter in effect, and is not dismissed within 90 days after such filing;

iii) If Facility Owner fails to observe or perform any material condition or provision hereof for a period of 60 days after receiving written notice of such failure from <MUNICIPALITY NAME>, Facility Owner shall commence corrective action within 30 days of notice from any source, of any failure, and shall complete corrective action within 60 days of receipt of notice.

Any period of time for which Facility Owner is unable to commence or complete corrective action as the result of any material third party withholding approval of such action shall not be counted against Facility Owner. If Facility Owner is unable to commence corrective action within 30 days of notice or is unable to complete corrective action within 60 days of receipt of notice for reasons other than delays caused by any material third party, Facility Owner shall request an extension from <MUNICIPALITY NAME>, which shall not be unreasonably withheld and which may include reasonable conditions, in order for Facility Owner to receive and maintain such extension,

iv) If Facility Owner continues to be in material breach of any statute, regulation, rule or permit administered by any federal, state, county or local department, agency or commission within 60 days after receiving written notice of a Violation by such federal, state or county department, agency or commission, Facility Owner shall notify <MUNICIPALITY NAME>, in writing, of any alleged violation, order or enforcement proceeding within seven days of receipt. Facility Owner shall commence corrective action within 30 days of notice, from any source, of any breach and/or violation, and shall complete corrective action within 60 days of receipt of notice. Any period of time for which Facility Owner is unable to commence or complete corrective action as the result of any material third party withholding approval of such action shall not be counted against Facility Owner. If Facility Owner is unable to commence corrective action within 30 days of notice or is unable to complete corrective action within 60 days of receipt of notice for reasons other than delays caused by any material third party, Facility Owner shall request an extension from <MUNICIPALITY NAME> which shall not be unreasonably withheld and which may include reasonable conditions in order for Facility Owner to receive and maintain such extension,

5. In addition, <MUNICIPALITY NAME> may revoke a permit issued under this Ordinance if the following conditions are met:

- i) The Event of Default remains uncured; and
- ii) There is no Force Majeure Event causing the Event of Default to continue; and
- iii) <MUNICIPALITY NAME> has provided Facility Owner an opportunity to present and explain its position before the <MUNICIPALITY'S GOVERNING BODY> to respond to the Event of Default, and any and all decisions and/or determinations by the <MUNICIPALITY'S GOVERNING BODY> may be appealed to the Court of Common Pleas of Mifflin County, and all appeals are de novo; and
- iv) All de novo appeals from the decision rendered by the <MUNICIPALITY'S GOVERNING BODY> have been exhausted.

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APPENDIX C

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

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ROADWAY SAFETY AUDIT OF US 522

The Mifflin County Planning Commission asked Gannett Fleming to conduct a safety audit of US 522 through Mifflin County. The purpose of the audit was to inventory existing deficiencies and provide planners and decision makers with direction for pursuing improvements and further study as traffic volumes increase and funding becomes available.

Our transportation planner and traffic engineer first reviewed available data for the US 522 corridors east and west of Lewistown to determine general areas of need, such as existing segments or intersections that appear to have capacity or safety-related issues; areas that may become bottlenecks with increased traffic; and corridor maintenance considerations.

Crash history data for SR 522/22 in Mifflin County from 2006 to 2010 indicate that the most frequent crash types were:

- Fixed object crashes = 122
- Rear end crashes = 119
- Angle crashes = 77
- Head on crashes = 26

On Friday, March 23, 2012 our traffic engineer performed a one-day field view of the two corridors, traveling the corridor in both directions examining the physical conditions of the roadway, signage, and signals. The sections below document the findings of the audit and recommend actions for each safety deficiency identified.

US 522 NORTH

Table C-1 summarizes twelve deficiencies and other considerations along the US 522 North corridor from the Borough of Lewistown to the Snyder County line.

Table C-1 Deficiencies and Other Considerations for US 522 North

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
 <p>US 522 at US 22/322</p>	<p>There is no weaving area between the on and off ramps of US 522's multiplex with US 22/322 – a distance of approximately 1,000 feet. This entails the area between the interchanges with Walnut Street and Charles Street.</p>	<p>Add an “exit only” lane for US 322 westbound between the two interchanges.</p>

Continued

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>Drainage ditches along US 522 NB are within the roadway clear zone.</p>	<p>Address exposed drainage ditches with pipe to create a forgiving roadside.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>Concrete drainage structures at ditches are a fixed object hazard.</p>	<p>Replace with at-grade drainage inlets.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>Numerous examples of "Texas twist" guiderail turn down end treatments are a safety hazard.</p>	<p>Replace turn down end treatments with crash cushions (shown).</p> 
	<p>Substandard stop sign at Mifflin County Refuse.</p>	<p>Add larger stop sign; stop signs on minor approaches to roadways with posted speeds greater than 35 mph must be at least 36" across.</p>

Continued

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>No raised pavement markers (RPMs).</p>	<p>Add RPMs and centerline rumble strips.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>No supplemental street name sign placards below intersection warning signs.</p>	<p>Add street name placards.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>There are examples of unmanaged and substandard access control.</p>	<p>Address access management through curbing, driveway access, and limiting parking fronting along US 522. Coordinate efforts with PennDOT.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 North</p>	<p>Several minor approaches intersect with US 522 at acute angles.</p>	<p>Address intersection configurations for better sight distance and visibility and consider adding stop bars at major crossroads.</p>

Continued

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
 <p>Alfarata Road</p>	<p>There is no advance warning of a stop on Alfarata Road with US 522.</p>	<p>Remove advance four-leg intersection sign. Install STOP AHEAD warning sign (W3-1) on northbound approach before horizontal curve on Alfarata Road.</p>
 <p>US 522/Walnut St and Spring St</p>	<p>Intersection is not ADA-compliant; faded roadway markings; no pedestrian signal heads; stop bar on Spring St is behind driveway access.</p>	<p>Address deficiencies as noted.</p>
 <p>On ramp to US 522</p>	<p>At-grade railroad crossing at US 522 on-ramp creates a safety hazard.</p> <p>Northbound right turn onto the US 522 on-ramp curb radii is inadequate for commercial traffic.</p>	<p>Consider adding gates (investigate requirements with the PUC).</p> <p>Improve curve radii to accommodate commercial vehicle off-tracking in collaboration with adjoining A05 bridge construction work on US 522.¹</p>

Source: Gannett Fleming

See page C-8 for recommendations.

¹ For pier bent columns between 18 ft. and 25 ft. from the centerline of tracks (Pier #1 Eastbound side and Pier #2 Westbound side), the columns will be protected by crash walls that are 2'-6" thick and will extend 10 ft. above the top of rail and extend 2'-6" beyond the outside face of outside columns. The crash wall will rest upon the column footings and will extend 6 in. beyond the face of columns adjacent to traffic and will connect all the columns in the pier bent.

US 522 SOUTH

Table C-2 summarizes deficiencies and other considerations along the US 522 North corridor from the Borough of Lewistown to the Huntingdon County line.

Table C-2 Deficiencies and Other Considerations for US 522 South

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
 <p>Throughout US 522 South</p>	<p>Access management is substandard at many locations, including the Centre Union Church; County Mobile; Sal-Lee’s Dream Restaurant.</p>	<p>Work with property owners in addressing substandard access management through curbing, defined driveway access and moving parking locations. Coordinate efforts with PennDOT.</p>
 <p>Chestnut Ridge Rd</p>	<p>Non-standard school crossing signs; no school crossing signs for crosswalks; faded crosswalks and stop bar.</p>	<p>Address deficiencies as noted.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 South</p>	<p>Advance intersection warning signs are inconsistent.</p>	<p>Install supplemental signs (street name placards) corridor-wide.</p>
 <p>Throughout US 522 South</p>	<p>There is some use of “turn down” guide rail end treatments.</p>	<p>Replace turn down guide rail end treatments with crash cushions.</p>

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
	<p>Poor curb ramps, no ADA accommodation; faded stop bars and crosswalks; 8" heads on minor approaches; ped push button signing is inconsistent in the SE quadrant; close driveway to Minute Mart – traffic cuts the corner</p>	<p>Address deficiencies, as noted.</p>
<p>US 522 South at John St/SR3014</p>	<hr/>	
	<p>Poor sight distance both ways at intersection with Market Street in McVeytown.</p>	<p>Construct a channelized island to restrict left turn movements out of Market; possibly convert Market to one way.</p>
<p>US 522 South at Market Street</p>	<hr/>	
	<p>Minor approaches intersect at acute angles, such as at Old State Road and Cookson Lane.</p>	<p>Address intersection geometry where appropriate. Minor approaches should intersect at 90 degrees.</p>
<p>Throughout US 522 South</p>	<hr/>	
	<p>Broken traffic signal back plate reduces signal visibility.</p>	<p>Replace back plate.</p>
<p>US 522 at US 22/522</p>	<hr/>	

Continued

Location	Condition	Recommended Action
 <p>US 522 at PA 747</p>	<p>No pedestrian accommodation.</p>	<p>Consider pedestrian traffic accommodations (push buttons on raised pedestals, etc.), if foot traffic dictates.</p>
<p>No image available</p>	<p>Center turn lane not being used effectively between the US 22/522 bypass and Strodes Mills in Granville Township.</p>	<p>Follow-up with PennDOT; Karen Michael began investigating this observation.</p>

Source: Gannett Fleming

In addition, the following conditions were observed throughout the both corridors:

- The retroreflectivity of all highway traffic signs along the two corridors should be considered. Though FHWA has relaxed the timetable for implementation, signs should be replaced in accordance with the requirements of the MUTCD. Refer to Table I-2 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for more information regarding compliancy dates.

The use of retroreflective tape on utility poles is inconsistent throughout the corridor. Consider installing retroreflective tape on all utility poles within the roadway clear zone.

Recommendations

Since US 522 is a state highway, most of the recommend actions are PennDOT’s responsibility to fund, program and implement. The automated red light enforcement (ARLE) fund generates revenue from automated red light enforcement for safety improvements such as these.

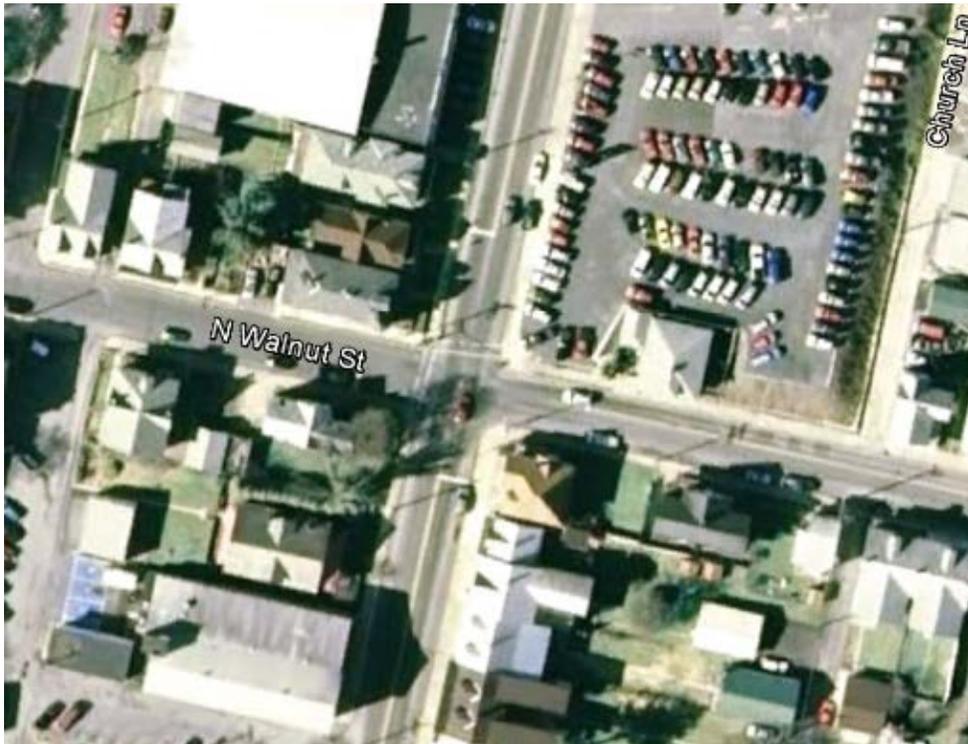
Uncontrolled access to the highway, such as wide or undefined driveways into parking lots, is the most notable land use and therefore locally-controlled aspect of highway safety along the entire corridor. Controlled access provides a defined location or locations where vehicles can enter or exit the highway and thereby provides predictability for drivers already traveling the highway. Defining the access locations can also take visibility and sight distance into consideration.

SELECT INTERSECTION ANALYSES

OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS OF WALNUT STREET AT VALLEY STREET (SR 1005)

The Mifflin County Planning Commission asked Gannett Fleming to conduct a turning movement count at Walnut Street and Valley Street in Lewistown, PA and to analyze the efficiency of the traffic signal timing. The intersection of Walnut Street and Valley Street is a four-leg, pre-timed, signalized intersection with minimal pedestrian accommodations. Parking is restricted near the intersection and stop bars are set back significantly on each approach to improve operations and facilitate commercial vehicle movements. See Figure C-1.

Figure C-1 Aerial View of Walnut Street at Valley Street



Data Collection and Analysis

Gannett Fleming conducted a turning movement count on March 22, 2012 during the AM and PM peak periods. Turning movement counts are shown in Figure C-2. Existing traffic volumes can be summed from the turning movement counts.

The data collected was entered into Synchro 8 Traffic Modeling software to determine if the existing and future traffic conditions would operate at an acceptable Level of Service (LOS). LOS is a term used to qualitatively describe the operating condition of a roadway or intersection based on factors such as traffic volume, road capacity, speed, delay, etc. LOS is assigned a letter grade, where A indicates that the roadway or intersection operates efficiently with little delay

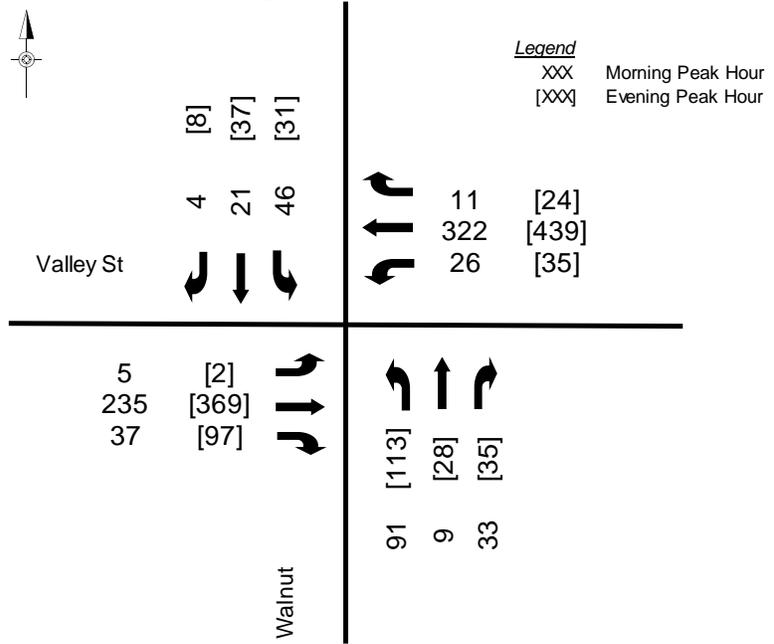
and where F indicates significant delay or stop-and-go operation. When analyzing/designing a rural intersection, a LOS of C or higher is considered acceptable². Table C-3 shows standards for average vehicle control delay for each LOS for intersections.

Table C-3 Intersection LOS Standards

LOS	Signalized Intersection	Unsignalized Intersection
A	≤10 sec	≤10 sec
B	10-20 sec	10-15 sec
C	20-35 sec	15-25 sec
D	35-55 sec	25-35 sec
E	55-80 sec	35-50 sec
F	≥80 sec	≥50 sec

Source: Highway Capacity Manual

Figure C-2 Peak Period Turning Movement Count Data, Thursday, March 22, 2012



Source: Gannett Fleming

Table C-4 summarizes the existing LOS for each approach assuming a pre-timed controller with an optimized cycle length of 60 seconds. Per the LOS results in Table C-4, the intersection operates at an acceptable LOS for existing conditions.

² Highway Capacity Manual

Table C-4 Existing Level of Service

Approach	Existing Conditions		
	Peak Period LOS		
	AM	MID	PM
Westbound	B	N/A	B
Eastbound	A	N/A	A
Northbound	B	N/A	B
Southbound	B	N/A	B
Overall	B	N/A	B

Source: Gannett Fleming

When analyzing future conditions, GF assumed a 1% growth rate over the next 25 years resulting in a growth rate of 1.25. MCPC did not provide growth information; GF assumed this number for a conservative analysis until a definitive number could be determined. Table C-5 summarizes the future LOS for each approach assuming a pre-timed controller with an optimized cycle length of 60 seconds. Per the LOS results in Table C-5, the intersection will operate at an acceptable LOS for future conditions.

Table C-5 Future Level of Service

Approach	Future Conditions No Improvements		
	Peak Period LOS		
	AM	MID	PM
Westbound	B	N/A	B
Eastbound	A	N/A	B
Northbound	B	N/A	C
Southbound	B	N/A	B
Overall	B	N/A	B

Source: Gannett Fleming

Other Observations

In addition, this intersection is characterized by the following deficiencies:

- Walnut Street westbound has a NO LEFT TURN sign that is improperly positioned
- No overhead street sign
- No pedestrian signals, push buttons, or ADA curb ramps
- No leveling area on Walnut Street crossing Valley; vehicles routinely bottom out
- There are no dedicated left turn lanes on Valley Street
- There is severe pavement rutting on Walnut Street’s westbound approach



- Intersection is posted for no commercial vehicles over 3 tons on Valley Street northbound and Walnut Street westbound

Recommendations

Even though the intersection will operate at an acceptable LOS in the future, the following improvements should be implemented in order to improve safety and operations:

Immediate Recommendation

- Verify that change (yellow) and clearance (all-red) intervals are correct for current stop bar placement. Change and clearance intervals appear short of required time per stop bar placements. Signal permit plans were not provided therefore change and clearance intervals were not verified.

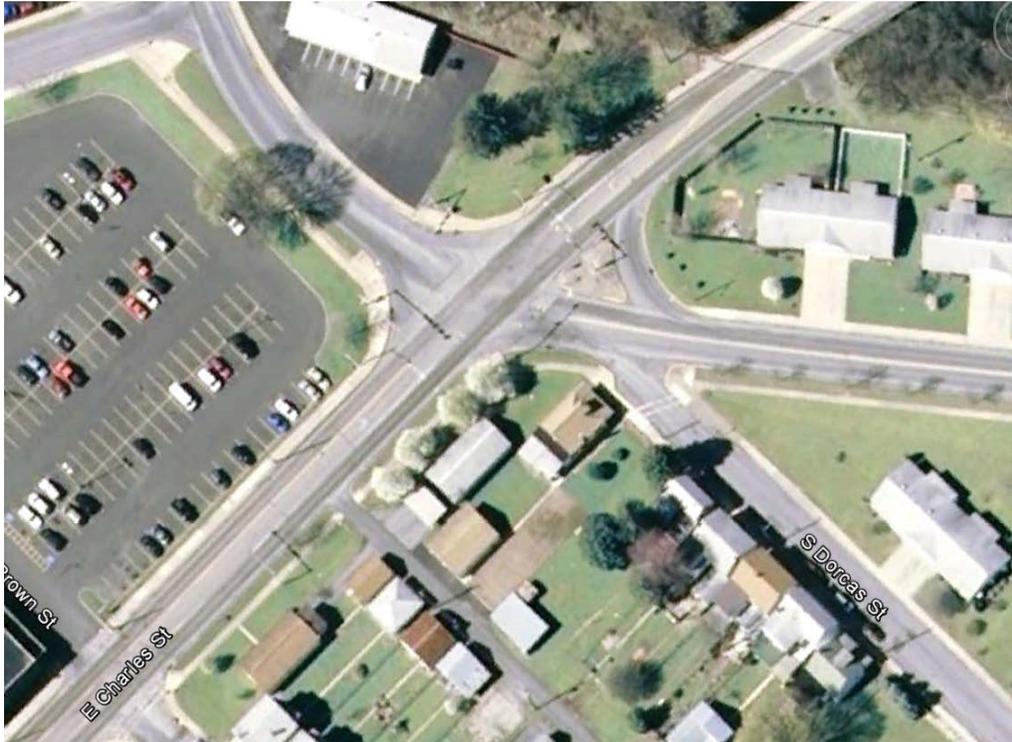
Near-term Recommendations

- Replace the existing traffic signal with a semi-actuated controller and ADA-compliant pedestrian accommodations. Semi-actuated controller refers to a signal that provides extended green time to the main thoroughfare until a vehicle appears on one of the minor approaches. Once the cycle length on the main thoroughfare finishes, the vehicle(s) on the minor approach will then be granted a green signal.
- Install mast arms at each corner of the intersection to provide poles for pedestrian accommodations. At a minimum, install detectors (video/radar or loop detectors) on northbound and southbound approaches of Walnut Street to create a semi-actuated traffic signal. Consider coordinating the upgraded signal with signals along Valley Street to promote traffic progression throughout the downtown corridor.

LEFT TURN PHASING ANALYSIS OF CHARLES STREET AT DORCAS STREET

On behalf of the Mifflin County School District, the Mifflin County Planning Commission asked Gannett Fleming to perform a left turn protected phasing analysis for the westbound left turn lane. The school district had previously expressed concern for school buses trying to make the westbound left turn queuing into the through lane during school peak hours. See Figure C-3.

Figure C-3 Aerial View of Charles Street at Dorcas Street

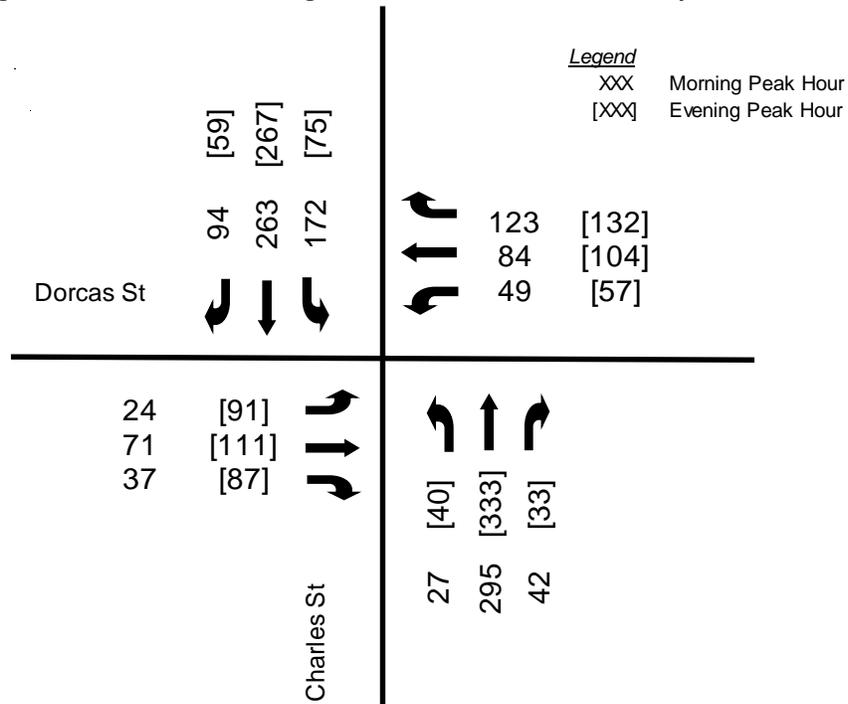


The intersection of Charles Street and Dorcas Street is a four-leg, semi-actuated, signalized intersection with dedicated left turn lanes on the eastbound and westbound approaches of Charles Street. Left turn storage lengths of 75 feet and 150 feet are provided on the westbound and eastbound approaches, respectively. The eastbound approach is a three-lane cross section, where the center left turn lane becomes a dedicated left turn lane 150 feet from the intersection. The westbound approach is a two-lane cross section that crosses Kishacoquillas Creek and widens after the bridge to provide a left turn lane at the intersection.

Data Collection and Analysis

Gannett Fleming conducted a turning movement count on March 22, 2012 during the AM and PM peak periods. Turning movement counts are shown in Figure C-4. Gannett Fleming also applied the traffic signal phasing methodology outlined in PennDOT Publication 149: Traffic Signal Design Handbook for this analysis. Conflict factors were examined specifically to determine if protected phasing was required. A conflict factor is the product of the left turn volume and the opposing through traffic volume for any one-hour period of a normal weekday.

Figure C-4 Peak Period Turning Movement Count Data, Thursday, March 22, 2012



Source: Gannett Fleming

Table C-6 summarizes the existing LOS for each approach assuming a pre-timed controller with an optimized cycle length of 60 seconds. Per the LOS results from Table C-6, the intersection operates at an acceptable LOS for existing conditions.

Table C-6 Existing Level of Service

Approach	Existing Conditions		
	Peak Period LOS		
	AM	MID	PM
Westbound	B	N/A	B/C
Eastbound	B/C	N/A	B
Northbound	A	N/A	A
Southbound	A	N/A	A
Overall	B	N/A	B

Source: Gannett Fleming

When analyzing future conditions, GF assumed a 1% growth rate over the next 25 years resulting in a growth rate of 1.25. MCPC did not provide growth information; GF assumed this number for a conservative analysis until a definitive number could be determined. Table C-7 summarizes the future LOS for each approach assuming a pre-timed controller with an optimized cycle length of 60 seconds. Per the LOS results from Table C-7, the intersection will operate at an acceptable LOS for future conditions.

Table C-7 Future Level of Service

Approach	Future Conditions (2037) No Improvements		
	Peak Period LOS		
	AM	MID	PM
Westbound	A/B	N/A	B/C
Eastbound	B/D	N/A	B/C
Northbound	A/B	N/A	A/B
Southbound	B	N/A	B
Overall	B	N/A	B

Source: Gannett Fleming

Table C-8 summarizes the results of the conflict factor analysis for existing conditions.

Table C-8 Conflict Factor Analysis of Existing Conditions

Intersection	Time Period	LT Phase Direction	Left Turn Volume	Opposing Thru Volume	Conflict Factor (CF)	CF Criteria*	CF Criteria Met	Cycle Length	Lefts per cycle	Lefts per cycle >2.0?
Charles @ Dorcas	AM Peak	EB	172	295	50,740	90,000	N	60	2.9	Y
	PM Peak		75	333	24,975		N	60	1.3	N
	AM Peak	WB	27	263	7,101	90,000	N	60	0.5	N
	PM Peak		40	267	10,680		N	60	0.7	N

*Criteria for protected/prohibited left turn phasing. 90,000 is for 2 opposing lanes, not 3 which is the existing condition
 Pub 149 does not provide criteria for 3 lanes.

Source: Gannett Fleming

Neither the eastbound or westbound left turn volumes warrant a protected left turn phase based on conflict factors of existing conditions. The eastbound left turn may warrant a protected phase based on the number of lefts per cycle.

When analyzing future conditions, GF assumed a 1% growth rate over the next 25 years resulting in a growth rate of 1.25. MCPC did not provide growth information; GF assumed this number for a conservative analysis until a definitive number could be determined. Table C-9 summarizes the results of the conflict factor analysis for future conditions.

Table C-9 Conflict Factor Analysis of Future Conditions

Intersection	Time Period	LT Phase Direction	Left Turn Volume	Opposing Thru Volume	Conflict Factor (CF)	CF Criteria*	CF Criteria Met	Cycle Length	Lefts per cycle	Lefts per cycle >2.0?
Charles @ Dorcas	AM Peak	EB	215	369	79,335	90,000	N	60	3.6	Y
	PM Peak		94	416	39,104		N	60	1.6	N
	AM Peak	WB	34	329	11,186	90,000	N	60	0.6	N
	PM Peak		50	334	16,700		N	60	0.8	N

*Criteria for protected/prohibited left turn phasing. 90,000 is for 2 opposing lanes, not 3 which is the existing condition
 Pub 149 does not provide criteria for 3 lanes.

Source: Gannett Fleming

Neither the eastbound or westbound left turn volumes warrant a protected left turn phase based on conflict factors. The eastbound left turn may warrant a protected phase based on the number of lefts per cycle.

Other Observations

This intersection is also characterized by the following deficiencies:

- The traffic signals are fully actuated and are outfitted with LEDs
- There are missing crosswalk markings on Kishacoquillas Drive
- Intersection is not ADA compliant, with no accessible pedestrian push buttons or tactile surfaces
- Roadway markings, e.g. stop bars, are faded
- Charles Street only has dedicated left turn lane, there are no protected lefts
- Dorcas Street eastbound has poor pavement surface; street should be signed as one way
- Traffic Counts shown in Figure C-4.



Recommendations

Per PennDOT’s traffic signal phasing guidance, protected left turn phasing is not warranted on the eastbound or westbound approach of Charles Street. Ideally, the left turn lane storage for the westbound left turn lane should be increased to accommodate the queued left turning vehicles, specifically school bus traffic. Because of the width of the existing bridge on Charles Street extending the left turn lane storage is unfeasible at this time.

There are two criteria for determining whether a “protected left” phase is required. One includes the “conflict factor”, which is opposing volumes against left turn movements. The second includes total crashes.

Below are possible short-term and long-term solutions.

Short-term Recommendation

- If problem continues to persist with school bus traffic queuing into the westbound through lane or if a crash problem is observed work with District 2-0 Traffic Department to implement a protected left turn phase for the westbound approach.

Long-term Recommendation

- Work with District 2-0 and identify when the bridge on the westbound approach of Charles Street is scheduled to be replaced. Work with bridge engineers to provide additional width on the bridge to accommodate additional left turn lane storage when bridge is scheduled to be replaced.

PA 655 AT THREE CENT LANE

The Mifflin County Planning Commission asked Gannett Fleming to perform an operational analysis of the intersection of SR 655 and Three Cent Lane, a Brown Township roadway, for existing and future conditions. The Planning Commission expressed concern for increased traffic volumes as parcels continue to develop along Three Cent Lane.

Existing Conditions

The intersection of SR 655 and Three Cent Lane is a three-leg, stop controlled intersection with stop control on Three Cent Lane. A mix of business and residences are located adjacent SR 655 and Three Cent Lane near the intersection. Some over tracking from large commercial vehicles was noted along the curve radii in the northeast and northwest quadrants. See Figure C-4.

Figure C-4 Aerial View of PA 655 at Three Cent Lane



Gannett Fleming evaluated the intersection Level of Service (LOS) to determine if roadway improvements would be required to maintain an acceptable LOS. LOS is a term used to qualitatively describe the operating condition of a roadway or intersection based on factors such as traffic volume, road capacity, speed, delay, etc. LOS is assigned a letter grade, where A indicates that the roadway or intersection operates efficiently with little delay and where F indicates significant delay or stop-and-go operation. For rural conditions a LOS of “C” is considered acceptable³.

Data Collection and Analysis

Gannett Fleming used Synchro 8 to determine if roadway improvements (i.e., dedicated turn lanes, traffic signal, etc.) were necessary for existing and future traffic conditions (2037).

³ Highway Capacity Manual

The AM and PM peak periods were analyzed for each condition. Both the existing and future conditions analysis assumed the existing road configuration.

When analyzing future conditions, GF assumed a 1% growth rate over the next 25 years resulting in a growth rate of 1.25. Table C-10 summarizes the LOS for each approach of the intersection for existing and future conditions with no roadway improvements.

Per the assumptions described previously, no roadway improvements for existing for future conditions are warranted.

Table C-10 Existing and Projected Level of Service

Approach	Existing Conditions		Future Conditions without Improvements	
	Peak Period LOS		Peak Period LOS	
	AM	PM	AM	PM
EB	A	A	A	A
WB	A	A	A	A
NB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SB	B	B	C	C
Overall Delay (s)	13.6	14.5	16.4	18.0

Source: Gannett Fleming

Other Observations

A summary of deficiencies and other observations at this intersection includes:

- Insufficient turning radii on Three Cent Lane
- Airport sign post foundations are a fixed object hazard in the clear zone
- If development occurs, minor widening may be required on SR 0655. The roadway may eventually require a right turn lane and a left turn lane if a major traffic generator develops there.
- Recent (April 2010) TIS for the Quillas Creek land development proposal suggested turning lanes and traffic signals would be warranted as soon as 2015, even without plan build out.
- Sheetz has acquired property adjacent to the US 322 interchange, which will introduce additional travel demand on the PA 655 corridor.



Recommendations

Short-term Recommendation

- Improve turn radii at the intersection to improve large commercial vehicle movements in and out of Three Cent Lane.

Long-term Recommendation:

- Continue to monitor the intersection as development occurs along SR 655 and Three Cent Lane. Section 4.216 of Brown Township's subdivision and land development ordinance requires that, if 20 or more dwelling units or residential lots generating more than 50 or more new peak hour trips or 300 total trips per day shall provide for a traffic impact study to determine the extent of expected impacts (LOS and delay).
- Future anticipated land development plan proposals, such as the recent Quillas Creek proposal and its 150 new dwelling units (113 single family detached homes and 38 townhomes), should be subjected to a detailed TIS to determine what, if any improvements would be required in order to ensure the intersection performs at an acceptable level of service in the future.

MILL STREET AT ELECTRIC AVENUE/SR1005

The Mifflin County Planning Commission asked Gannett Fleming to examine the intersection of Electric Avenue and Mill Street in regards to operations and safety. Mill Street is approximately 0.2 miles in length and provides a short-cut between Electric Avenue and Bridge Street. Traffic counters were placed near the Mill Street bridge to determine vehicle usage while safety concerns were documented at the intersection of Electric Avenue and Mill Street.

Existing Conditions

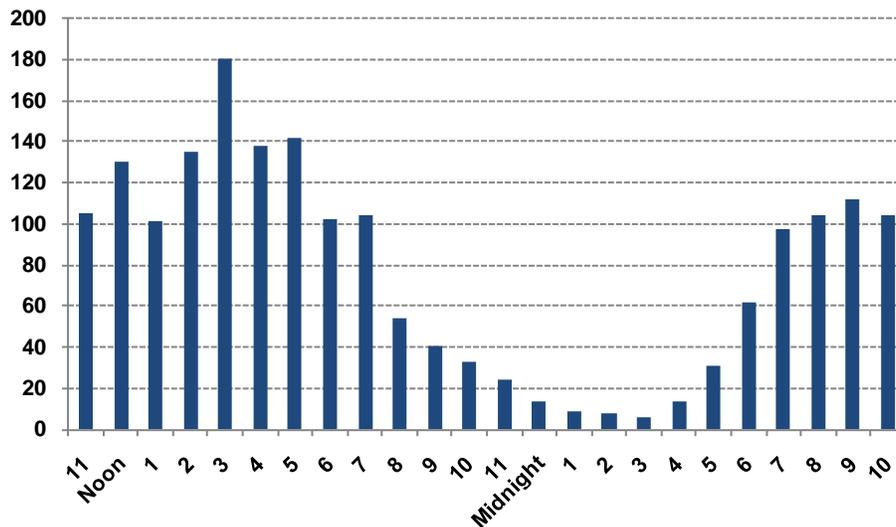
The intersection of Electric Avenue and Mill Street is a three-leg intersection with an exit ramp merging immediately before Mill Street. The exit ramp is yield controlled while Mill Street is stop controlled. Electric Avenue features a mix of business and residences near Mill Street while Bridge Street is located in a residential neighborhood.

Figure C-5 Aerial View of Mill Street at Electric Avenue

*Data Collection and Analysis*

Gannett Fleming conducted a traffic count on Mill Street on March 22, 2012, which yielded a daily total of 1,850 vehicles using the roadway. Existing traffic volumes for both directions on Mill Street by hour are provided in Figure C-6. Peak hour traffic volumes are minimal along Mill Street with a maximum volume of 180 vehicles during the PM peak period. Traffic signals along Electric Avenue to the east and west of the Mill Street intersection create adequate gaps in traffic to allow the low volume of traffic traveling northbound to exit Mill Street onto Electric Avenue, therefore no signal or indepth Synchro analysis was performed.

Figure C-6 Hourly Traffic Volumes, Mill Street, March 22, 2012



Source: Gannett Fleming

Safety Analysis

Although the intersection geometry of Electric Avenue and Mill Street is awkward, very few reportable crashes have been documented. Between 2006 and 2010, only 2 reportable crashes were recorded in PennDOT's database. Both crashes occurred in 2008 and were angle crashes. The lack of crashes could be due to the relatively low traffic volume on Mill Street. Even though there are minimal crashes at this location, the intersection should continue to be monitored for safety.

Regional police report a limited number of non-reportable crashes at the intersection over the past decade. Frequent violations include motorists failing to stop as they come off the off-ramp.

Other Observations

- A summary of deficiencies and other observations at this intersection includes:
- Mill Rd intersects with Electric Ave less than approximately 75 feet from the off-ramp of US 322 WB.
- Mill Rd provides access between SR 1005/Electric Ave and SR 2005 Parcheytown Rd
- Mill Rd also features a 98' long, state-owned bridge that spans Kishacoquillas Creek. The structure was built in 1973 and has a sufficiency rating of 79.8.



Recommendations

The County and SEDA-COG should begin exploring options for improving traffic flow at this intersection:

Short-term Alternative

- Install a concrete island at Electric Avenue and Mill Street requiring all northbound traffic on Mill Street to turn right onto Electric Avenue. Another alternative is to make Mill Street one-way southbound to eliminate any conflicts with the exit ramp and Electric Avenue.

Long-term Alternative

- Mill Street features a 98' long, state-owned bridge that spans Kishacoquillas Creek. The structure was built in 1973 and has a sufficiency rating of 79.8. As the structure continues to deteriorate consider closing the road to vehicular traffic in the future therefore negating potential vehicle conflicts at Electric Avenue and Mill Street.

DOWNTOWN LEWISTOWN PARKING ASSESSMENT

BACKGROUND/OVERVIEW

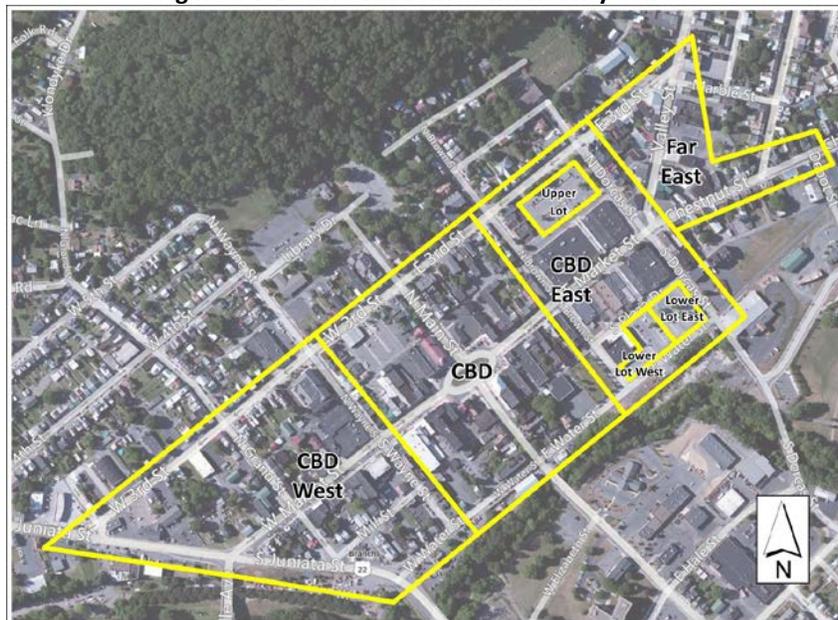
As a component of the update to the Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan, the consultant team conducted an assessment of on-street parking in downtown Lewistown. Counts were conducted on Friday, March 23, 2012, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and on Saturday, April 21, 2012, during the same timeframe. The consultant performed occupancy counts of on-street parking along the following streets:

- Brown Street between Third and Water Streets
- Chestnut Street between Dorcas and Depot Streets
- Dorcas Street between Water and Third Streets
- Grand Street between Third and Market Streets
- Main Street between Third and Water Streets
- Market Street between US 22 and Dorcas Streets
- Third Street between US 22 and Valley Streets
- Water Street between US 22 and Dorcas Streets
- Wayne Street between Third and Water Streets
- Valley Street between Dorcas and Third Streets

The consultant team also performed counts within Monument Square, and two off-street surface lots: the Upper Lot, a 157-space lot off of Third Street behind Bon-Ton; and the Lower Lot, a divided, metered lot at the corner of Water Street and Dorcas Street behind Penn State and the South Hills Business Center. Spring break for both schools was avoided; Penn State's break was March 5-9 and South Hills' break was March 12-19. This assessment did not include the Third Street Lot or the lot at the Courthouse Annex, which are regularly full, or the Library Lot at the corner of Wayne and Library Drive, which is rarely full.

For the purposes of presenting the study area's parking capacity, the consultant organized the study area into "Activity Centers," as shown in Figure C-7.

Figure C-7 Downtown Lewistown Activity Centers



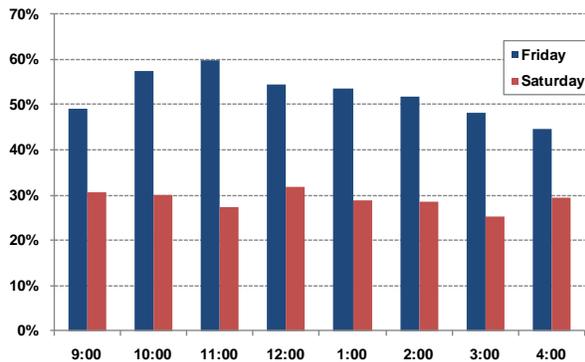
PARKING DEMAND/OCCUPANCY

Demand for parking within the study area on the weekday grew through the morning hours, peaked at mid-day and declined throughout the rest of the day. Demand on Saturdays was observed to be steady throughout the day, with a slight increase toward the end of the day when Catholic Mass services generated additional parking demand downtown.

Figure C-8 shows overall parking occupancy rates for the study area.

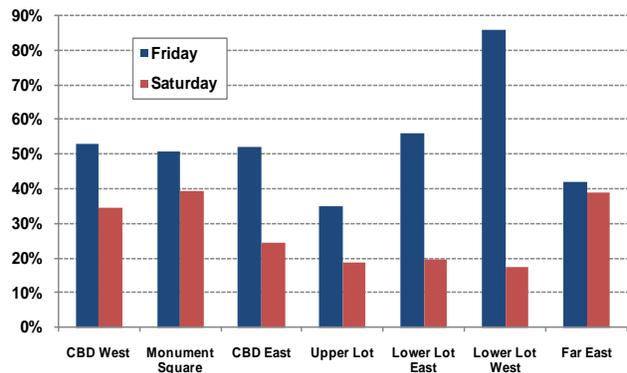
Demand by Activity Center varied greatly throughout the day, as shown in Figure C-9. The highest demand occurred at the off-street parking lots behind Penn State and South Hills. Saturday demand was highest in the Monument Square Activity Center and along Chestnut and Valley Streets in the Far East Activity Center.

Figure C-8 Total Parking Occupancy



Source: Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Figure C-9 Parking Occupancy by Activity Area



Source: Gannett Fleming, Inc.

PARKING ANALYSIS

An optimal parking capacity rate is approximately 85 percent. During the Friday count, the Upper Lot at the corner of Dorcas Street and Third Street exhibited the lowest occupancy rates, averaging 35 percent throughout the day. The areas with the highest parking demand were the Lower Lots, both east and west, behind Penn State and South Hills, as shown in Table C-11.

Table C-11 Downtown Lewistown Parking Occupancy by Activity Center, Friday, March 23, 2012

Hour	CBD West	Monument Square	CBD East	Upper Lot	Lower Lot East	Lower Lot West	Far East
Capacity	189	223	151	157	73	112	90
9:00	49%	47%	56%	24%	60%	81%	36%
10:00	51%	58%	58%	39%	62%	96%	49%
11:00	51%	61%	64%	46%	64%	99%	42%
12:00	47%	58%	52%	43%	58%	90%	38%
1:00	50%	58%	56%	38%	49%	86%	36%
2:00	58%	46%	49%	34%	58%	82%	48%
3:00	59%	42%	45%	29%	52%	77%	41%
4:00	57%	35%	36%	29%	45%	74%	48%
Avg Occupancy	53%	51%	52%	35%	56%	86%	42%

Source: Gannett Fleming Inc.

Parking occupancy rates were much lower on Saturday, with none of the Activity Centers approaching capacity, as shown in Table C-12. Occupancy rates were highest, overall in the Monument Square Activity Center, with higher rates earlier in the day due to the Logan Guards 5K Run/Walk for Lincoln event. Occupancy rates were generally low everywhere else but small increases in occupancy occurred later in the day in the Upper Lot (behind Bon-Ton) when Catholic Mass services were underway.

Table C-12: Downtown Lewistown Parking Occupancy by Activity Center, Saturday, April 21, 2012

Hour	CBD West	Monument Square	CBD East	Upper Lot	Lower Lot East	Lower Lot West	Far East
Capacity	189	223	151	157	73	112	90
9:00	38%	55%	23%	3%	25%	20%	36%
10:00	33%	48%	27%	8%	30%	18%	38%
11:00	35%	22%	28%	20%	29%	23%	43%
12:00	36%	43%	25%	22%	21%	21%	47%
1:00	38%	38%	19%	23%	15%	21%	34%
2:00	42%	40%	23%	18%	14%	13%	33%
3:00	29%	36%	19%	17%	14%	13%	39%
4:00	25%	35%	31%	41%	10%	11%	40%
Avg Occupancy	35%	40%	24%	19%	20%	17%	39%

Source: Gannett Fleming Inc.

CONCLUSION

Based on the two counts of parking occupancy conducted in the study area, downtown Lewistown has an ample supply of parking available, both on-street and off-street. Reviewers noted that the weekday count was conducted on a Friday (March 23) when program offerings and enrollments at Penn State and South Hills Business Center are markedly lower. For example, Penn State has 30 daytime students Monday through Thursday and 10 or fewer

students on Friday. South Hills Business School has 72 students enrolled Monday through Thursday and 60 students on Fridays. This yields a potential undercount of 32 vehicles for Monday through Thursday parking demand, assuming all students arrive in single-occupancy vehicles. (Additionally, the adjacent physical therapy office with reserved parking in the Lower Lot has less business on Fridays and Penn State offers extension programs during the week for which there is no regular enrollment.) In response, the consultant projected 32 additional vehicles in the Lower Lot West from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adding these additional vehicles to the analysis shows the Lower Lot operating near capacity throughout the day and averaging above the 85 percent threshold. Assuming no imbalance in weekday parking activity in downtown, other parking locations have the capacity to absorb the overflow.

APPENDIX D

FUNDING SOURCES

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Business in Our Sites (BOS) Loans.....	D-1
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STATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

Program	Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority (BFTDA) – University Research Commercialization Grant Funding
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant
Purpose	Grants designed to promote stronger synergy between university-based research and development and the transfer of technology as it relates to economic and work force development
Eligible Applicants	Colleges or universities; Non-profit organizations partnering with colleges/universities
Uses	Research and development; Technology transfer; Approved course of study
Notes/Terms	Conforms with university criteria; Supporting large-scale projects identified within research agenda

Program	Business in Our Sites (BOS) Loans	
Administering Agency	Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA)	
Type	Grants and Loans. Planning grants for any one project cannot exceed \$250,000. There is no limit on loan size. Maximum loan term is 20 years at 2%-3% interest, depending upon the county unemployment rate. No grant funding issued in 2013.	
Purpose	Prepare strategic development sites for future use as: (1) planning grants for predevelopment activities and (2) construction grants or combined construction grants/loans for the acquisition and development of site-ready projects.	
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities • Redevelopment Authorities • Municipal Authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial Development Agencies • Private Developers (construction loans only)
Uses	Planning Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility studies • Geo-technical work • Environmental assessments • Engineering design and cost estimates • Impact analysis 	Construction Grants and Loans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property acquisition • Infrastructure • Site demolition and site preparation • Building rehabilitation • Environmental remediation • Engineering, design, and inspection • Signage, landscaping, & street lighting • Administrative costs

Program	Community Conservation Partnership Program (one application to access multiple funds)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Type	Grants. Matching funds are required; percentages vary by project/fund
Purpose/Uses	<p>Help Pennsylvania communities, land conservancies and non-profit organizations plan, acquire and develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recreation, park and conservation facilities, • watersheds, rivers corridors and resources, • greenways and trails, • heritage areas and facilities, and • critical habitat, natural areas and open space.
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County, city, borough, incorporated town, township or home rule municipality. • Municipal Agency created by a municipal government under the laws of the Commonwealth such as municipal authorities, Council of Governments (COG's) and intergovernmental commissions. • Pre-qualified Land Trusts – Non-profit conservation or preservation organizations, conservancies or land trusts • Conservation District • School District • College/University • Non-Profit Organizations- Rivers, Conservation, Trails, etc. • Housing / Redevelopment Authority • Designated Heritage Areas • For-profit Enterprises - Eligible only for PA Recreational Trails and Snowmobile & ATV Grant funding.

Program	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant/Technical Assistance. Entitlement funding is set by formula. Competitive Program is \$500,000 maximum. 70% of each grant must be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Refer to program guidelines.
Purpose	Grants and technical assistance for federal designated municipalities for any type of community development.
Eligible Applicants	Entitlement program which provides annual funding to designated municipalities Competitive program is available to all non-federal entitlement municipalities
Uses	Housing rehabilitation, public services, community facilities, infrastructure improvement, development and planning.

Program	Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant. Based on entitlement formula.
Purpose	Provides funds to eligible nonprofit community-based organizations or governmental entities that work to lessen poverty in disadvantaged and low-income communities across Pennsylvania.
Eligible Applicants	Must be a federally recognized Community Action Agency.
Uses	Eligible projects include but are not limited to: case management, job training, food and nutrition, transportation, education, housing, drug and alcohol counseling, economic development.
Notes/Terms	Guidelines detail specific state priorities. One-year grant awards. Applicants must provide demonstrated ability to sustain projects, assure community linkages and effectively manage project budgets.

Program	Discovered and Developed in PA Program (D2PA)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant
Purpose	To increase economic opportunity in the commonwealth by seeding innovative ideas that promote entrepreneurship, technology transfer, business outreach, and increased capacity.
Eligible Applicants	Eligible applicants shall include private and public sector entities whose mission includes economic development. Competitive projects will include ongoing or innovative new activities, programs or events to promote entrepreneurship, encourage technology transfer, improve capacity building for regional economic development or provide outreach to businesses.
Uses	Eligible uses include: Reasonable salary/personnel expenses; Consultant fees relating to approved programmatic activities; land/building/equipment improvements; Meeting/travel expenses; Costs associated with preparation and publishing of educational/marketing materials.
Notes/Terms	Refer to Section IV of the Program Guidelines.

Program	Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (formerly Emergency Shelter Grant)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant. \$50,000 minimum and no maximum.
Purpose	Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (formerly Emergency Shelter Grant) is federal grant funding to assist with street outreach, shelter, rapid re-housing assistance, homelessness prevention, HMIS and administration.
Eligible Applicants	DCED will accept applications from any general purpose units of local government, including cities, boroughs, and townships, towns, counties, home rule municipalities, and communities that desire to apply “on behalf of” other municipalities. Local governments must apply “on behalf of” nonprofit organizations. Non-profits are not eligible applicants.
Uses	Eligible activities include all activities listed in the Emergency Solution Grant Interim Rule, published in the Federal Register on December 5, 2011. Emphasis will be placed on the Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention components of the program.
Notes/Terms	Refer to program guidelines and application kit.

Program	Enactment of Ordinances and Implementation of Stormwater Management Plans
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection
Type	Grant. Average grant amount is \$1,400.
Purpose/Uses	Reimburse municipalities for costs incurred in the adoption or revision of ordinances or regulations and other administrative, enforcement, and implementation costs incurred in complying with the Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Act, Act 167, and the companion regulation governing stormwater management grants and reimbursements
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities
Notes/Terms	There is currently no appropriation for this program; however, applications submitted will be held in the event funding is made available.

Program	Environmental Education Grants
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection
Type	Grant. Average grant amount is \$4,500.
Purpose	Support and strengthen environmental education in Pennsylvania
Eligible Applicants	Public and private schools, colleges and universities, county conservation districts, nonprofit organizations and associations, conservation and education organizations, municipalities, municipal authorities and businesses

Program	Flood Mitigation Program (FMP)	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development	
Type	Grant. Grants shall not exceed \$500,000 for any project. Eligible projects will have a total project cost of \$50,000 or more and a maximum cost of \$1,000,000. A 15% match of the total project cost is required. Match may be cash or non-cash and must be directly related to the approved scope of work.	
Purpose	Act 13 of 2012 establishes the Marcellus Legacy Fund and allocates funds to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (the "Authority") for funding statewide initiatives to assist with flood mitigation projects.	
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities • Councils of Governments • Authorized Organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institution of Higher Education • Watershed Organization • For-Profit Businesses
Uses	Projects authorized by a flood protection authority, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or identified by a local government for flood mitigation are eligible for the program.	

Program	Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP)	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development	
Type	Grant. Grants shall be awarded to eligible applicants for projects that do not exceed \$250,000. Most projects require a 50% local match of the total project cost. Applications from municipalities with a population of fewer than 5,000 require a 20% match of the total project cost. Match may be cash or non-cash and must be directly related to the approved scope of work.	
Purpose	Act 13 of 2012 establishes the Marcellus Legacy Fund and allocates funds to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (the "Authority") for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects using the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP).	
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities • Councils of Governments • Authorized Organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institution of Higher Education • Watershed Organization • For-Profit Businesses
Uses	Projects which involve development, rehabilitation and improvements to public parks, recreation areas, greenways, trails and river conservation.	

Program	Growing Greener II
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant. No minimum or Maximum; Typical grants average between \$250,000 and \$500,000. No required match level, but matching should be demonstrated.
Purpose	Growing Greener II - Main Street and Downtown Redevelopment Grants to municipalities and nonprofits to help a community's downtown redevelopment effort, focusing on the improvement of downtown sites and buildings. The eligible projects may include approaches that assist in business development and/or public improvements in core communities.
Eligible Applicants	Grants to municipalities and nonprofits to help a community's downtown through community development and housing activities, downtown reinvestment, facade and anchor building activities, residential reinvestment, and business assistance.
Uses	Capital improvement costs and those costs directly related to such physical building improvements such as acquisition and pre-development costs.

Program	Growing Greener Watershed Protection Grants
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection
Type	Grant. Average grant amount is \$1,400.
Purpose	Funding to clean up non-point sources of pollution
Eligible Applicants	Counties, authorities and other municipalities; county conservation districts; watershed organizations; and other organizations involved in the restoration and protection of Pennsylvania's environment
Uses	Acid mine drainage abatement, mine cleanup efforts, abandoned oil and gas well plugging and local watershed-based conservation projects

Program	H2O PA - Flood Control Projects
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant. A minimum of \$500,000 or more and a maximum amount of \$20 million for any project.
Purpose	The H2O PA Act was established by the General Assembly in July 2008. The Act provides single-year or multi-year grants to the commonwealth, independent agencies, municipalities or municipal authorities for flood control projects.
Eligible Applicants	The Commonwealth, independent agencies, municipalities or municipal authorities.
Uses	Projects which involve construction, improvement, repair or rehabilitation of all or part of a flood control system.
Notes/Terms	See Program Guidelines.

Program	H2O PA - Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant. A minimum for \$500,000 or more and a maximum of \$20,000,000 for any project. Multi-year grants may not be given for a period of more than six (6) years and shall not exceed a total of \$20 million for any project.
Purpose	The H2O PA Act, established by the General Assembly in July 2008, provides for single-year or multi-year grants to municipalities or municipal authorities to assist with the construction of drinking water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer projects.
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities; Municipal Authorities
Uses	Activities to assist with the construction of drinking water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer projects.

Program	HOME
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant. Maximum grant is \$500,000. A 25% local match on project costs from non-federal resources for rental housing is required.
Purpose	Federally funded program that provides municipalities with grant and loan assistance as well as technical assistance to expand the supply of decent and affordable housing for low- and very low-income Pennsylvanians.
Eligible Applicants	Local governments that are not HUD participating jurisdictions; Local government on behalf of private, non-profit and for-profit housing development corporations
Uses	New construction, rehabilitation, financing mechanisms, acquisition of rental or sales housing and rental assistance for low- and moderate-income families. Eligible activities include: acquisition assistance including homebuyer down payment, closing costs, second mortgages; homeowner rehabilitation; rental housing and single family sales housing-rehabilitation and new construction of between one to nine total units (based on total number of units, not on number of units assisted with HOME); group home projects; single room occupancy; tenant based rental assistance, including security deposits; real property acquisition; site improvements; demolition; relocation expenses; other reasonable and necessary expenses related to the development of modest housing; with the forms of assistance being offered as equity investments, interest and non-interest bearing loans or advances, interest subsidies, deferred payment loans, grants, and loan guarantee funds."
Notes/Terms	Refer to the Program Guidelines.

Program	Industrial Sites Reuse Program (ISRP)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grants and loans up to \$200,000 for environmental assessments; Grants and loans up to \$1 million for remediation Interest rates of 2%. A 25% match is required for grant and loan projects.
Purpose	Grant and low-interest loan financing to perform environmental site assessment and remediation work at former industrial sites.
Eligible Applicants	Public entities, private nonprofit economic development entities, and companies involved in reuse of former industrial land; Entities that did not cause or contribute to environmental contamination.
Uses	Phase I, II and III environmental assessments; Remediation of hazardous substances
Notes/Terms	Terms up to 5 years for assessments and 15 years for remediation projects

Program	Infrastructure and Facilities Improvement Program (IFIP)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grants up to \$1 million for eligible cases. Grant cannot exceed the amount of the eligible tax increment generated by the project.
Purpose	A multi-year grant program that will provide grants to certain issuers of debt in order to assist with the payment of debt service
Eligible Applicants	Authorities that issue debt for Tax Increment Financing; Redevelopment Authorities; Convention center authorities, including municipal authorities formed for the purpose of convention center activities; The Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority
Uses	Payment of debt service incurred by the authority relating to debt issued for the project.

Program	Infrastructure Development Program (IDP)	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development	
Type	Grants for public infrastructure and loans to private businesses at 3 percent interest rate. Loans and grants up to \$1.25 million. No more than 20 percent of the annual appropriation for a single municipality; no more than 10 percent of the annual appropriation will be loans or granted to applicant for speculative Greenfield projects not involving private companies. 2:1 private to public match required.	
Purpose	Grant and low-interest loan financing for public and private infrastructure improvements	
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities, industrial development authorities and corporations, municipal authorities, redevelopment authorities and local development districts may apply for IDP assistance for themselves or on behalf of eligible private companies engaged in: agriculture, industrial, manufacturing, research and development and export services; Real estate developers who are developing sites for eligible private companies.	
Uses	<p>Eligible projects include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transportation facilities and airports • clearing and preparation of land and environmental remediation • water and sewer systems, storm sewers • energy facilities • parking facilities • bridges & waterways • rail & port facilities 	<p>At former industrial sites only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land and building acquisition, construction and renovation by private developers • telecommunications infrastructure
Notes/Terms	Up to 15-year term. \$25,000 cost per job to be created within five years or 10 new full-time equivalent jobs (whichever is greater).	

Program	Keystone Communities Program (KCP) (one application to access multiple funds)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grants and loans. Grants typically do not exceed \$500,000.
Purpose	<p>Assists Pennsylvania’s communities in achieving revitalization. The program designates and funds communities that are implementing Main Street, Elm Street, Enterprise Zone efforts or other community development efforts by supporting physical improvements to designated and/or other communities that are undertaking revitalization activities within the community. Also, provides accessible modifications for the homes of persons with physical disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keystone Main Streets: Funding and technical assistance for a community's downtown revitalization. • Keystone Elm Streets: Funding and technical assistance for residential and mixed use areas in proximity to central business district. • Keystone Enterprise Zones: Funding and technical assistance for disadvantaged industrial/manufacturing and business sites. • Keystone Communities: Designation and potential access to funding and Neighborhood Assistance tax credits. • Keystone Communities Development Projects: Grants and grants-to-loans for physical improvements for both designated and other communities. • Accessible Housing: Housing improvements for persons with physical disabilities.
Eligible Applicants	Units of local government such as counties, cities, boroughs, townships, towns and home rule municipalities; redevelopment authorities; housing authorities, non-profit main street organizations; economic development organizations; neighborhood improvement districts, downtown improvement districts, business improvement districts, and other nonprofit corporations (with operational capacity).
Uses	Community revitalization and economic development projects involving physical improvements to a specific area; revitalization of residential and mixed use neighborhoods and downtowns; development or rehabilitation of housing; physical improvements supported by a downtown plan; acquisition costs and physical building improvements for a development project such as an Anchor Building or similar project; competitive grants to loans for eligible businesses located in an enterprise zone; business development surveys; business development strategy/preparation; revolving loan funds; and adaptive modifications that increase the ability of persons with permanent, physical disabilities to remain in their homes preventing institutionalization.
Notes/Terms	This Program consolidates the discontinued New Communities, Housing and Redevelopment Assistance and Pennsylvania Accessible Housing appropriations, funding most eligible activities under these appropriations.

Program	Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program	
Administering Agency	Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission	
Type	Grant. \$25,000 maximum for project-focused activities and \$50,000 for construction projects. Grants require a 50/50 CASH match.	
Purpose	Provides funding support for projects that identify, preserve, promote and protect historic and archaeological resources.	
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Local Governments • Colleges and Universities • Conservancies • Historic Preservation Organizations • Historical Societies • Local Governments • Museums • Religious Institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other historical organizations • Museums and historic sites that are owned by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission but operated by independent nonprofit organizations • Multipurpose Organizations (see Program Guidelines)
Uses	<p>Preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration projects , including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site work - subsurface investigation, selective demolition, drainage and restoration of designed landscapes and gardens; • Concrete - poured-in-place concrete, precast concrete, concrete restoration and cleaning; • Masonry - brick or stone repair or replacement, repointing mortar joints and cleaning; • Metals - structural metal framing and metal restoration or replacement; • Wood and Plastics - rough and finish carpentry, architectural woodwork and millwork; • Thermal and Moisture Protection - roofing, flashing, waterproofing, damp proofing and insulation; • Doors and Windows - repair and restoration, frame repair, replacement and hardware; • Finishes - lath and plaster repair, gypsum wallboard, ceramic tile, wood paneling, floors and painting; • Conveying Systems - elevators; • Mechanical - plumbing, fire protection systems, heating, cooling and air distribution; • Electrical - service, distribution and lighting; and • Accessibility improvements for people with disabilities. 	

Program	Local Government Capital Project Loan Program (LGCPL)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Loan.. 50% of the total cost of purchasing equipment up to a maximum of \$25,000 or 50% of the total cost for purchase, construction or renovation of municipal facilities up to a maximum of \$50,000.
Purpose	Low-interest loans to local government for equipment and facility needs.
Eligible Applicants	Local Government with populations of 12,000 or less
Uses	Rolling stock and data processing equipment purchases or the purchase, construction, renovation or rehabilitation of municipal facilities
Notes/Terms	2% interest rate; Repaid over a period not to exceed 10 years or the useful life of the equipment or facility; Refer to program guidelines

Program	Municipal Assistance Program (MAP) (one application to access multiple funds)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grants of up to 50 percent of eligible costs.
Purpose	Provides funding to assist local governments to plan for and efficiently implement a variety of services and improvements, and soundly manage development with an emphasis on intergovernmental approaches. Funding is available for three groups of activities: shared services; community planning; and floodplain management.
Eligible Applicants	Counties and municipalities may apply. Shared service activities require two or more participating municipalities. Some projects are open to COGs and other intergovernmental organizations where duly authorized by participating municipalities.
Uses	Shared service activities: consolidating or regionalizing shared services among multiple counties and municipalities boundary change studies, shared personnel and shared equipment. New or expanded intergovernmental initiatives that promote local governmental efficiencies and effectiveness. Community planning: comprehensive plans and parts thereof, land use ordinances, Transit Revitalization Investment District planning studies and entrepreneurial/innovative plans that support community and economic development improvements with an emphasis on multi-municipal plans. Floodplain management: reimbursement for costs of preparation, enactment, administration and enforcement of floodplain management regulations pursuant to the Flood Plain Management Act.

Program	Municipal Recycling Program Grants
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection
Type	Grants up to 90 percent of approved recycling program costs
Purpose/Uses	Assist municipalities and counties for developing and implementing recycling programs
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities and counties

Program	Nonpoint Source Pollution Educational Mini-Grants
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection
Type	Grants. Average grant amount is \$200,000.
Purpose	Assist in implementing Pennsylvania’s Nonpoint Source Management Program
Eligible Applicants	Counties, municipalities, authorities, school districts, nonprofits, conservation districts and watershed groups.
Uses	Abandoned mine drainage, agricultural and urban run-off, and natural channel design/streambank stabilization projects

Program	Pennsylvania First Program (PA First)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grant, Loan, and Loan Guarantees. The maximum assistance amount shall not exceed \$5,000 for each job projected to be created or retained.
Purpose/Uses	<p>Facilitate increased investment and job creation. Competitive projects must offer substantial economic impact, either for the Commonwealth as a whole or for the locality or region in which a business will locate or expand. Private match and job creation/preservation required.</p> <p>Machinery/equipment; job training; infrastructure; land and building improvements; environmental assessment/remediation; acquisition of land, buildings, right-of-ways; working capital; site preparation, demolition, clearance.</p> <p>Businesses must achieve one of the following standards within three years of receiving PA First funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create or retain a minimum of 100 full-time jobs at the project site • Increase their full-time employment within the Commonwealth by at least 20 percent • Provide a substantial number of new, full-time employment opportunities within a high-growth industry <p>Continued</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create or retain fewer than 100 full-time jobs at project sites that are located in counties or communities suffering from high unemployment
Eligible Applicants	Businesses or Industrial Development Corporations (IDCs), municipalities or authorities, on behalf of businesses, which will create or preserve a significant number of jobs and will make a significant investment within the Commonwealth.
Notes/Terms	The base pay of an employee hired or retained by the business must be at least 150 percent of federal minimum wage in order for the employee to be counted toward meeting the employment requirement.

Program	Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank (PIB)
Administering Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Type	Grant. There is no set minimum or maximum loan amount. Construction receives the highest priority. Up to 100% of eligible costs.
Purpose	Low-interest loans for the design, engineering, right-of-way and repair, reconstruction and construction of public highways, bridges, public and private airports and railroads and public transportation systems.
Eligible Applicants	Counties and municipalities
Uses	Roadway and bridge construction and repair, traffic signals, roadway drainage improvements, airport runways, hangars and equipment, railroad track, equipment and signals, and public transportation capital facilities and purchases.
Notes/Terms	The interest rate is a fixed rate at one half prime and is set upon receipt of the loan application. The maximum loan term is 10 years.

Program	Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development/
Type	Loans: up to \$11 million per project for one municipality; up to \$20 million for 2 or more municipalities; up to \$2 million for upfront (5-year loan) design and engineering; up to 100% of the eligible project costs; average project size is \$1.5 million
Purpose	Low-interest loans for design, engineering, and construction of publicly and privately owned drinking water distribution and treatment facilities, stormwater conveyance and wastewater treatment and collection systems
Eligible Applicants	Any owner or operator (public or private) of an existing or proposed drinking water or wastewater system; any municipal owner of a stormwater conveyance system Continued
Uses	Design, engineering, and construction costs associated with publicly and privately

	owned drinking water distribution and treatment facilities, stormwater conveyance and wastewater collection, conveyance, treatment facilities and brownfield site remediation
Notes/Terms	1% to 5% interest rate, depending upon the county/area to be served by the project and the resulting residential user rate; length of repayment is usually 20 years; disbursement made monthly based upon submitted invoicing and reimbursable expenses

Program	Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP)
Administering Agency	PA Office of the Budget
Type	Grant. Projects must have minimum total project cost of \$1 million. Program requires a 1:1 match.
Purpose	Reimbursable funding for construction of economic development projects that generate substantial increase in economic activity or projects that have a significant cultural, historic, or civic significance.
Eligible Applicants	<p>General Purpose Units of Local Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities • Boroughs • Townships • Counties <p>Any Public Authority for projects authorized in Capital Bills up to and including Act 48 of 2010.</p> <p>Local Development Districts that have an agreement with a general purpose unit of local government under which the unit assumes ultimate responsibility for debt incurred to obtain the 50% non-state participation.</p>
Uses	RACP can be used to fund a wide range of costs associated with capital projects, specifically building construction costs.
Notes/Terms	Projects must have a line item authorization in a Capital Budget Bill to be eligible to apply. The program has recently been designed as a competitive application process, but still requires strong political support for a project's PA delegation.

Program	Section 108 Program	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development	
Type	Loan guarantee	
Purpose	Section 108 enables states and local governments participating in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to obtain federally guaranteed loans to fund large economic development projects and undertake revitalization activities. Under Pennsylvania's initiative to use Section 108 the loans are guaranteed by the state, committing the use of future CDBG funds to pay off the loan in case of default.	
Eligible Applicants	Local governments that are not designated by HUD as urban counties or entitlement municipalities	
Uses	Eligible projects include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acquisition • rehabilitation • relocation • clearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • site preparation • special economic development activities • certain public facilities • housing construction

Program	Sewage Facilities Enforcement and Permitting Grants	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection	
Type	Grant	
Purpose	Provides for reimbursement of 50 to 85 percent of costs of on-lot system permitting programs.	
Eligible Applicants	Counties, municipalities and groups of municipalities	
Notes/Terms	There currently is no appropriation for this program. However, applications submitted are held for the fiscal year in the event funding is made available. If at the end of the fiscal year funding has not been made available, the applications are no longer valid.	

Program	Sewage Facilities Planning Grants	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection	
Type	Grant	
Purpose	Reimburses up to 50% of the activities and studies related to the development of comprehensive sewage facilities plans.	
Eligible Applicants	Counties, municipalities and authorities	
Notes/Terms	There currently is no appropriation for this program. However, any applications submitted will be held in the event funding is made available.	

Program	Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Guarantee Program
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Credit enhancement for TIF projects. The local issuer of TIF bonds or the Commonwealth Financing Authority may obtain a loan guarantee from the program to serve as a credit enhancement for a TIF bond issue, thereby allowing the bonds to be sold on more favorable terms. Maximum guarantee amount per project is \$5 million.
Purpose	Promotes and stimulates the general economic welfare of various regions and communities in the Commonwealth and assists in the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of brownfield and greenfield sites in accordance with the TIF Act. The program provides credit enhancement for TIF projects to improve market access and lower capital costs through the use of guarantees to issuers of bonds or other indebtedness.
Eligible Applicants	All municipalities and their authorities, including boroughs, townships, towns, counties, and home rules that issue TIF bonds to fund local economic development projects
Uses	Infrastructure and environmental projects for industrial enterprises and retail establishments; infrastructure, environmental and building projects for manufacturers, hospitals, convention centers, and associated hotels; utilization of abandoned or underutilized industrial, commercial, military, previously mined institutional sites or buildings; or undeveloped sites planned and zoned for development in accordance with any existing comprehensive municipal plan
Notes/Terms	Project must be located in a blighted area (containing the characteristics of blight as described in the Urban Redevelopment Law); project must be located within a TIF district; project must be located on previously utilized property or on undeveloped property that is planned and zoned for development; project must demonstrate its ability to comply with the TIF law prior to the issuance of bonds or other indebtedness; applicants must show that the revenue to be realized as a result of the project will be sufficient to offset the amount of the debt service; business or private developers must agree to create a certain number of permanent full-time jobs within the TIF district.

Program	Water Supply and Wastewater Infrastructure Program (PennWorks)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Grants: \$5 million maximum or 75% of the total eligible project costs, which ever is less. Loans: \$5 million maximum per project. 2% interest rate; may have repayment term of up to 20 years. Additional limitations apply. Refer to guidelines.
Purpose	PennWorks is a program to ensure safe water supply and proper wastewater infrastructure.
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities; Industrial Development Corporations; Municipal Authorities; Investor-owned water or wastewater enterprise
Uses	For water and sewer projects not used solely for residential purposes: Land and building acquisition; Demolition; Water/sewer project construction costs; Engineering and other fees associated with project.
Notes/Terms	The project must serve a site or sites being prepared for economic development activities which involve the investment of capital in Pennsylvania enterprises and communities or which results in the creation of new or the preservation of existing jobs. Please refer to Guidelines for additional details.

STATE TAX CREDIT AND TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAMS

Program	Community Based Services Tax Credit (CBSTC)
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Type	Tax credits equal to 50% of the contribution made to a provider agency or \$100,000.00 annually per business firm. If a business firm donates to the same provider for two or more years they will qualify for a 75% credit in the second year and every consecutive year that they make a contribution to the same provider. Business firms must provide proof to DCED within 90 days of the notification letter that the contribution was made within 60 days of receiving the notification letter. A tax credit not used in the taxable year the contribution was made may not be carried forward or carried back and is not refundable or transferable.
Purpose	The Community Based Services Tax Credit (CBSTC) establishes a tax credit program for businesses that make contributions (cash, personal property or services) to non-profit entities that provide community-based services to individuals with Intellectual Disabilities.
Eligible Applicants	Any business firm that is authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is subject to taxes imposed under Article III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX or XV of the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
Uses	Tax credits may be applied against the tax liability of a business for the tax year in which the contribution was made.
Notes/Terms	The guidelines governing the operation of this program are still under legislative review. The guidelines are currently under construction and will be posted when completed.

Program	Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC)	
Administering Agency	PA Department of Community and Economic Development	
Type	Tax credits equal to 75 percent of the contribution up to a maximum of \$750,000 per taxable year. Can be increased to 90 percent of the contribution, if business agrees to provide same amount for two consecutive tax years. For contributions to Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship Organizations, a business may receive a tax credit equal to 100 percent of the first \$10,000 contributed and up to 90 percent of the remaining amount contributed up to a maximum credit of \$200,000 annually.	
Purpose	Encourage local investment in public education	
Eligible Applicants	<p>Businesses authorized to do business in Pennsylvania who are subject to one or more of the following taxes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Net Income Tax • Capital Stock Franchise Tax • Bank and Trust Company Shares Tax • Title Insurance Companies Shares Tax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance Premiums Tax • Mutual Thrift Institution Tax • Insurance Company Law of 1921 • Personal Income Tax of S corporation shareholders or Partnership partners

Program	Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA)
Administering Agency	Local taxing body
Type	Tax Abatement
Purpose	LERTA is a form of tax abatement permitted under Pennsylvania law, allowing communities to designate areas in which there would be up to a 10-year abatement on taxes on building improvements or new construction. Typically, to be successful, LERTA requires the cooperation of 3 taxing bodies: the municipality, county, and local school district.
Eligible Applicants	Property owners who pay real estate taxes

Program	(Federal) Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit (RITC) and Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Incentive Tax Credit
Administering Agency	State Historic Preservation Office (Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission) for both state and federal programs
Type	Tax Credit. Federal Tax Credit - 20% for a historic building and 10% for a non-historic building, with different qualifying criteria for each rate. State Credit - 25% state tax credit for the rehabilitation of qualified income-producing buildings that are also using the federal tax credit. Limited to \$3 million annually with an individual project cap of \$500,000.
Purpose	Encourage private investment in rehabilitating income producing, historic properties such as office buildings, rental housing, hotels, bed and breakfasts, and retail stores
Eligible Applicants	Owners of income-producing properties as well as private residences
Uses	Building rehabilitation
Notes/Terms	The state historic tax credit went into effect on July 1, 2013. The opening application submission date for Pennsylvania’s Historic Preservation Tax Credit (HPTC) – scheduled for Sunday, September 1, 2013 – has been postponed until further notice. Due to a delay in the release of the program guidelines and application forms, the opening date will be rescheduled later this fall. For the latest updates on tax credit programs, forward your email address to Scott Doyle at midoyle@pa.gov to be included in the tax credit update distribution list or visit DCED’s tax credit web page at www.newpa.com/hptc .

FEDERAL TAX CREDIT AND TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAMS

Program	Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) , also known as Section 42 Credits in reference to the applicable section of the Internal Revenue Code
Administering Agency	Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency
Type	Tax credit. Annual tax credit (a dollar for dollar reduction in the tax payer’s federal taxes) earned in the initial ten years following when the units are placed in service assuming program requirements are met.
Purpose	Assist in the creation and preservation of affordable housing for low-income households
Eligible Applicants	Private Developers
Uses	Typically development of multi-family housing units
Notes/Terms	See Program Guidelines

Program	(Federal) Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit (RITC) - see previous page for description
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OTHER SOURCES

Program	Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns
Administering Agency	Chesapeake Bay Trust
Type	Grants. Up to \$50,000 for design projects. Up to \$250,000 for implementation projects. Up to \$25,000 for white papers
Purpose/Uses	<p>Design and implementation funds for practices which enhance green spaces in communities, including implementing urban green stormwater practices, increasing urban tree canopy, and replacing impervious surfaces with more permeable materials.</p> <p>A green street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimizes impacts on the surroundings through a natural systems approach incorporating a variety of water quality, energy-efficiency, and other environmental best practices; • integrates a system of stormwater management features to increase infiltration and/or filtration of runoff, reduce flows, and enhance watershed health; • reduces the amount of water that is piped directly to streams and rivers; • makes the best use of the street tree canopy for stormwater interception as well as temperature mitigation and air quality improvement; • encourages pedestrian and/or bicycle access; and • provides an aesthetic advantage to a community.
Eligible Applicants	Non-profit organizations, community associations, faith-based organizations

Contact	Jen Wijetunga jwijetunga@cbtrust.org (410) 974-2941 ext. 106
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Fund/Source	Preservation Fund of Pennsylvania
Administering Agency	Preservation Pennsylvania
Contact	257 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17101 Phone: (717) 234-2310 Fax: (717) 234-2522 Email: info@preservationpa.org

Program	Public River Access Grants
Administering Agency	National Park Service (NPS), Chesapeake Bay Office (CHBA)
Type	Grant
Purpose/Uses	Public access site development projects that advance the development of designated Gateways water trails, the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (CAJO), and/or the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (STSP) are the current funding focus.
Eligible Applicants	Non-profit organization (qualified as such under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code) or a state or local government
Notes/Terms	Subject to the availability of federally appropriated funding in fiscal year 2014 (FY14), NPS CHBA does anticipate soliciting project proposals in FY14. A call for proposals is typically issued between November and January.
Contact	NPS CHBA Phone: 410-260-2488

Program	Source Water Protection (SWP) Collaborative Grant
Administering Agency	Water Resources Education Network (WREN) Project
Type	Grant up to a maximum of \$7,000. Minimum 15% match required - match share may be cash or in-kind services donation.
Purpose/Uses	Foster and support Pennsylvania communities and public water systems that will form or strengthen a regional or County coalition of stakeholders that will educate themselves, fellow citizens, and municipal officials about their public drinking water sources, and the public policies necessary to sustain them for the future
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities, and other government entities including counties, municipal authorities, planning commissions, environmental advisory councils, and/or Councils of Government, watershed associations, civic groups, conservation organizations that promote local watershed efforts, community water systems, educational entities such as schools, colleges or universities, or other governmental or non-governmental organizations
Notes/Terms	Project award funding is dependent upon the availability of federal and state funding support to the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund/WREN Project.
Contact	Same as above

Program	Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grants
Administering Agency	Susquehanna Greenway Partnership
Type	Grant up to \$5,000 for Planning grants or \$10,000 for Implementation grants and must be matched by the applicant with cash and/or eligible non-cash (in-kind) services at a ratio of 1:1.
Purpose/Uses	<p>Mini-Grants for the Susquehanna Greenway region are intended to stimulate projects that align with the goals of the partnership and advance strategic approaches to conservation and connections. The theme for the Mini-Grant program is: Connecting Susquehanna Greenway River Towns.</p> <p>Projects that improve trail connections with the river, riverfront parks, river access, Susquehanna Greenways signs, or green infrastructure projects that help to protect the water quality of the Susquehanna River.</p>
Eligible Applicants	Municipalities, municipal agencies, and 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations
Contact	<p>Bridget Kane Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (hosted at SEDA-COG) 201 Furnace Road Lewisburg, PA 17837</p>

Program	Various NEH Grant Programs
Administering Agency	National Endowment for the Humanities, http://www.neh.gov/grants
Contact	1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20506 Phone: 1-800-NEH-1121 or 202-606-8400 Email: info@neh.gov

Program	Watershed Education Grants
Administering Agency	Water Resources Education Network (WREN) Project
Type	Grant. Average grant amount is \$4,500.
Purpose/Uses	Watershed education projects that educate, build awareness, and promote water-sustaining public policies and/or behavior change. Projects should be designed to encourage individual or collective action that will protect and improve local water resources.
Eligible Applicants	Counties, municipalities, authorities, school districts, nonprofits, conservation districts and other entities
Contact	League of Women Voters of PA Citizen Education Fund Attention: WREN Watershed Ed Grant Application 226 Forster Street Harrisburg, PA 17102-3220 WREN Project Director: juliekwren@verizon.net General e-mail: info@palwv.org

Appendix E

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The goal of the CDBG program is to assist municipalities and counties in developing viable communities, by providing suitable living environments, decent housing, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low to moderate income persons. Historically, Mifflin County has received approximately \$250,000 annually from DCED and used this funding for numerous community projects.

In order to apply for the grant, Mifflin County must prepare a plan that establishes needs, objectives and project activities for a three-year period. This 2014-2016 Mifflin County Community Development Plan (CDP) is based on the findings and recommendations of the Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan, which is currently being prepared for adoption by December 2013. Once the grant is approved, Mifflin County distributes the funding to eligible and fundable projects on a competitive basis and updates the CDP on an annual basis.

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*COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA***About Mifflin County**

Mifflin County, located in central Pennsylvania, encompasses 431.1 square miles of ridge and valley terrain along the Juniata River and the US 322 and the US 522/22 corridors. As of the 2010 U.S. Census, the County's total population was 46,682, resulting in an overall population density of 107.2 persons per square mile—less than half that of the state. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated the July 1, 2012 population as 46,773 – an increase of 91 persons or less than 1 percent. The Borough of Lewistown, the County seat, is the largest population center with 17.9% of the County's residents. The County's population is projected to grow by only 1-2 percent over the next 20 years.

Mifflin County includes 6 boroughs and 10 townships, as shown on Map 1.

The County's economy is based primarily on manufacturing industries including steel, plastics, food and wood products, which provided almost 27% of jobs in the county in 2010. Health care and social assistance supplied almost 18% of jobs and retail trade accounted for more than 13%.¹ The top five employers in Mifflin County in the 1st quarter of 2006, respectively, are Lewistown Hospital, Standard Steel LLC, Mifflin County School District, Trinity Packaging Corporation, and First Quality Baby Products, LLC.²

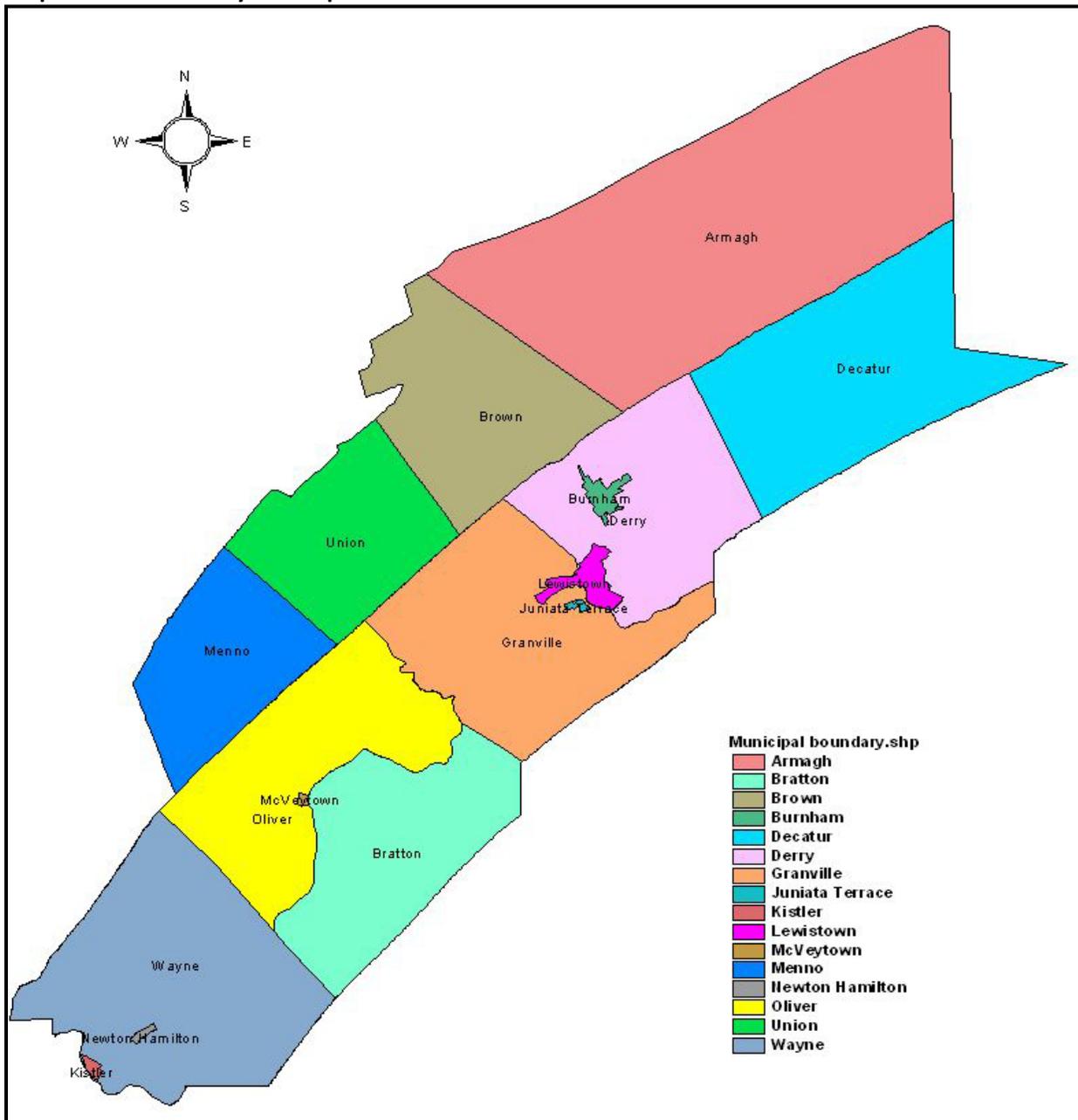
Unemployment in Mifflin County has been at a high rate relative to the surrounding counties and the state over the past decade. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry reported annual unemployment rates of 9.9 percent for Mifflin County and 8.5 percent for Pennsylvania in 2010 (Figure 4-2). Mifflin County's annual unemployment rates have been consistently higher than state rates since 2001 and second only to Huntingdon County among regional unemployment rates except in 2007 and 2008 when Mifflin County's rate was the highest in the region.

¹ Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

² Mifflin County Profile, July 2013, PA Department of Labor and Industry

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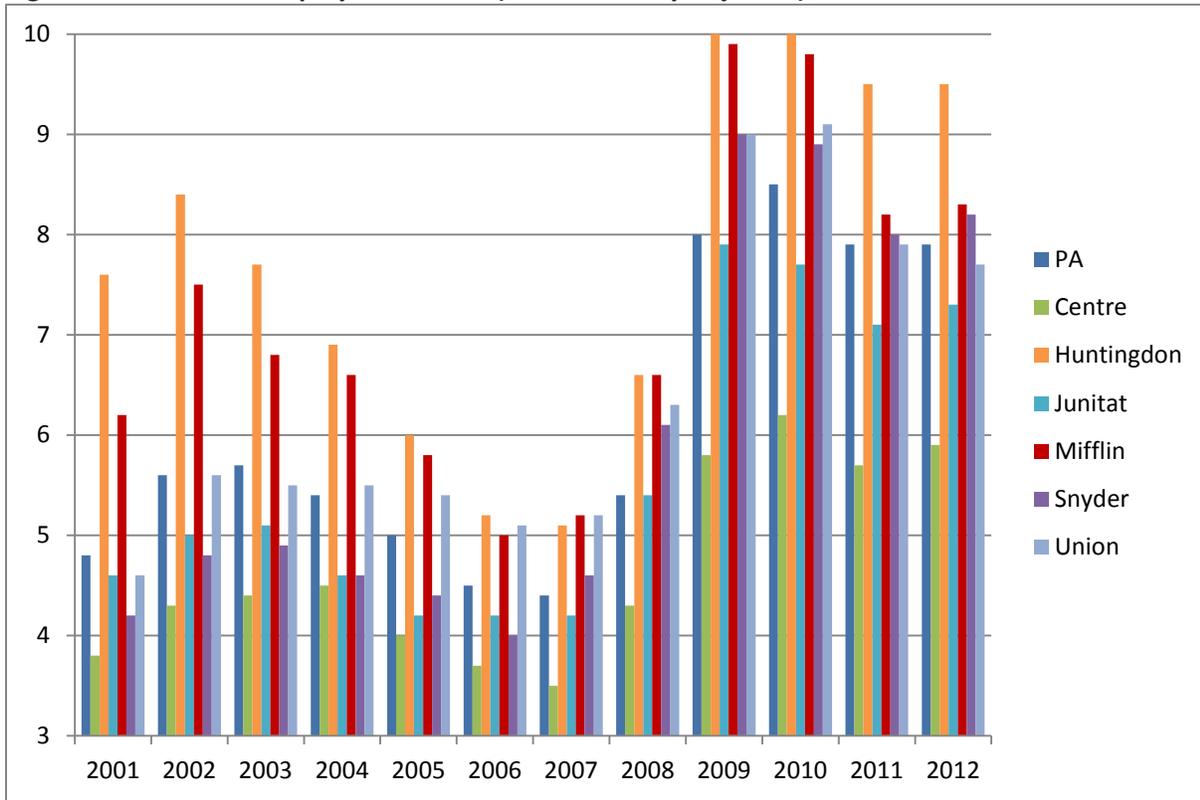
Map 1 – Mifflin County Municipalities



Source: Mifflin County GIS Department

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Figure 1 – Annual Unemployment Rates (Not seasonally Adjusted), 2001-2012



Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Incidence and Concentration of Low and Moderate Income Residents and Minority Residents

“Low income” and “moderate income” are defined in the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. A low-income person is a member of a family with a gross income of no more than 50 percent of the area median family income. A Moderate-Income person is a member of a family with a gross income of no more than 80 percent of the area median family income. The “area” is either the county or the non-metropolitan portion of the state, whichever has the higher median income.

Historic Estimates

Table 1 lists the estimated numbers and percentages of low/moderate income residents for each municipality within Mifflin County for the fiscal year 2013, as estimated by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department.

Table 1 – Low to Moderate Income Estimates for Non-Entitled Local Governments, FY13

Geography	Population Count, 2000	Residents Evaluated For Low To Moderate Income Status	Low To Moderate Income Residents	% Low To Moderate Income Residents
Mifflin County	46,486	45,795	18,790	41.0
Armagh township	3,988	3,988	1,464	36.7
Bratton township	1,259	1,259	486	38.6
Brown township	3,852	3,795	1,373	36.2
Burnham borough	2,144	2,144	774	36.1
Decatur township	3,021	3,021	874	28.9
Derry township	7,256	7,124	2,502	35.1
Granville township	4,895	4,835	1,621	33.5
<i>Township Survey, 2006</i>		4,895		51.4
Juniata Terrace borough	502	501	201	40.1
<i>Borough Survey, 2004</i>		502		60.1
Kistler borough	344	325	190	58.5
Lewistown borough	8,998	8,782	4,988	56.8
McVeytown borough	405	400	151	37.8
Menno township	1,763	1,763	931	52.8
Newton Hamilton borough	272	276	154	55.8
Oliver township	2,060	2,065	743	36.0
Union township	3,313	3,152	1,300	41.2
Wayne township	2,414	2,365	1,038	43.9

Source: HUD.gov

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Low to moderate income residents are found in every municipality in Mifflin County. Across the county, percentages of low to moderate income residents range from 28.9% in Decatur Township to 58.5% in Kistler Borough. Four of the sixteen municipalities exceeded the CDBG eligibility threshold of fifty-one percent of the population being low or moderate income persons. These municipalities included the Kistler Borough (58.5%), Lewistown Borough (56.8%), Menno Township (52.8%), and Newton-Hamilton Borough (55.8%).

Separate resident surveys by Granville Township and Juniata Borough in the mid 2000s, found higher percentages of low to moderate income residents—percentages of 51.4% and 60.1%, respectively. These figures are also shown in Table 1.

2011 Mifflin County Estimate

A 2011 county-wide quality of life survey by the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department found that 42% of households across the county had incomes below 80% of the median household income per household size. These households represented 39% of the population. Based on a strong response rate and the sampling techniques employed, findings from the survey were considered representative of the entire population within plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Table 2 – Mifflin County Estimate of Low to Moderate Income Households and Persons, 2011

Size of Household	Maximum Income (80% of median income), FY2011	% Respondent Households below the Maximum Income	Respondent Households below Maximum Income	Persons in Respondent Households below Max Income
1-person	\$30,750	72.34	102	102
2-person	\$35,150	37.64	137	273
3-person	\$39,550	31.07	32	96
4-person	\$43,900	31.87	27	108
5-person	\$47,450	32.50	13	65
6-person	\$50,950	46.15	6	36
7-person	\$54,450	50.00	2	14
8-person	\$57,950	80.00	4	32
Mifflin County	-	13.78	323	726
Low to moderate income households as a % of all respondent households			42% of 769	-
Low to moderate income persons as a % of all persons represented by the respondent households			-	38.64% of 1,879

Source: Mifflin County 2011 Quality of Life Survey

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Among Municipalities

In lieu of estimates of household income by household size by municipality, which show wide ranging margins of error (e.g. 11% to 200%), Mifflin County presents income and poverty data from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey used in its comprehensive plan update. Estimates from the U.S Census Bureau indicate that there were residents in every municipality in Mifflin County that were living below poverty in 2010. The highest rates of poverty were in Kistler Borough (40.4%), Lewistown Borough (27.4%) and Menno Township (26.9%).

Table 3 – Income and Poverty, 2006-2010

Geography	Median Household Income	Median Family Income	Persons below Poverty (past 12 months)	Percent Margin of Error (+/-)
Pennsylvania	\$50,398	\$63,364	12.4%	0.1
Mifflin County	\$37,539	\$46,598	13.9%	1.5
Armagh township	\$41,169	\$48,255	13.7%	6.2
Bratton township	\$40,469	\$46,328	12.5%	7.2
Brown township	\$46,338	\$55,231	12.7%	5.6
Burnham borough	\$36,411	\$47,193	9.5%	4.1
Decatur township	\$44,241	\$47,188	9.1%	3.4
Derry township	\$39,934	\$48,504	6.9%	3.5
Granville township	\$36,800	\$45,461	5.0%	2.8
Juniata Terrace borough	\$29,491	\$35,938	5.2%	4.9
Kistler borough	\$25,341	\$25,208	40.0%	19.2
Lewistown borough	\$26,584	\$38,356	27.4%	4.4
McVeytown borough	\$38,125	\$45,000	22.7%	14.2
Menno township	\$42,500	\$47,446	26.9%	11.1
Newton Hamilton borough	\$43,889	\$46,250	12.9%	10.5
Oliver township	\$40,104	\$52,250	6.0%	3.8
Union township	\$31,700	\$43,714	15.1%	7.3
Wayne township	\$41,419	\$50,000	9.4%	4.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Conclusion

Low to moderate income residents are found in every municipality in Mifflin County. Low to moderate income residents living in Mifflin County are concentrated in Granville Township, Juniata Borough, Kistler Borough, Lewistown Borough, Menno Township, and Newton-Hamilton Borough.

*COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA***Minority Residents***In the County*

The vast majority of Mifflin County's population descended from European immigrants. The County has relatively few residents of African-Americans, American Indians, Asians or residents of two or more races (1,151 in total, or 2.5 percent of the total population) (Table #). Just over one percent of County residents are Hispanic or Latino.

Among Municipalities

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Lewistown Borough had the largest number of residents of a minority race or multiple races in 2010, totaling 402 (4.8%) of its 8,338 residents, followed by Derry Township (179 minority residents) and Granville Township (120 minority residents) (Table 4).

By percentages, Kistler Borough was the most racially diverse municipality in Mifflin County with 5.9 percent of its 320 residents reporting their race as other than white alone, followed by Lewistown then Newton-Hamilton Borough (6 residents, 2.9%).

Lewistown Borough, Derry Township and Union Township had the largest numbers of with 256, 49 and 46 Hispanic or Latino residents, respectively. Six municipalities had percentages of Hispanic or Latino residents higher than the county average of 1.1%. Again Kistler Borough was highest (4.1%, 13 residents), followed by Lewistown (3.1%, 256 residents), Newton-Hamilton (2.4%, 5 residents), McVeytown (1.8%, 6 residents), Burnham (1.5%, 31 residents), Juniata Terrace (1.5%, 8 residents).

As the most populous municipality and the county seat, Lewistown has the highest number and percentage of minority residents. Number and percentages in other municipalities vary from year to year and survey to survey. Racial diversity is increasing across the county, as shown by the fact that only 2 of the 16 municipalities experienced a loss in minority residents since the 2000 census. In fact, seven municipalities—Burnham, Granville, Kistler, McVeytown, Newton-Hamilton, Oliver and Union---more than doubled their percentages of minority residents.

Conclusion

Minority residents are found in every municipality in Mifflin County and are concentrated in numbers in Derry Township, Granville Township, Lewistown Borough and Union Township and additionally by percentages in Burnham Borough, Juniata Terrace Borough, Kistler Borough, McVeytown Borough, and Newton-Hamilton Borough.

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Table 4 – Minority Residents, 2010

	Total Population	Minority Race	% Minority Race	Change in Minority race #/% since 2000	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	% Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
Mifflin County	46,682	1,151	2.5%	468/1.0	534	1.1%
Armagh Township	3,863	50	1.3%	2/0.1	9	0.2%
Bratton Township	1,317	20	1.5%	14/1.0	7	0.5%
Brown Township	4,053	54	1.3%	6/0.1	17	0.4%
Burnham Borough	2,054	41	2.0%	24/1.2	31	1.5%
Decatur Township	3,137	69	2.2%	33/1.0	17	0.5%
Derry Township	7,339	179	2.4%	59/0.7	49	0.7%
Granville Township	5,104	120	2.4%	60/1.2	34	0.7%
Juniata Terrace Borough	542	11	2.0%	-1/-0.4	8	1.5%
Kistler Borough	320	19	5.9%	10/3.3	13	4.1%
Lewistown Borough	8338	402	4.8%	178/2.3	256	3.1%
McVeytown Borough	342	8	2.3%	5/1.6	6	1.8%
Menno Township	1,883	24	1.3%	-20/-1.2	3	0.2%
Newton-Hamilton Borough	205	6	2.9%	3/1.8	5	2.4%
Oliver Township	2,175	37	1.7%	27/1.2	15	0.7%
Union Township	3,460	75	2.2%	51/1.5	46	1.3%
Wayne Township	2,550	36	1.4%	17/0.6	18	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2010 Census.

*COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA***Community Development Needs, Objectives and Activities**

The community development needs, objectives and activities were developed during the comprehensive planning process. Additional information was derived from the Mifflin County Quality of Life Survey conducted in Summer 2011 (direct mail survey to 13.3 percent of County households with a response rate of 31.4 percent).

The community development needs, objectives and activities for housing, public/community facilities, public/community services, and economic development are presented in the following tables.

Table 5 - Housing Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Table 6 - Housing Activity Details

Table 7 - Public/Community Facilities Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Table 8 - Public/Community Facilities Activity Details

Table 9 - Public/Community Services Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Table 10 - Public/Community Services Activity Details

Table 11 - Economic Development Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Table 12 - Economic Development Activity Details

These activities will complement the ongoing efforts to benefit low to moderate income persons within Mifflin County. CDBG funds may be used in conjunction with existing programs to target concentrations of low to moderate income households. This can be accomplished through income surveys or census tracts/block groups that have at least 51% low to moderate income households.

Table 5 – Housing Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Housing Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>1. Seventy-five percent of the county’s housing stock was built prior to 1980. Now more than 30 years old, these homes may require one or more significant investments to bring them up to code, modernize their interiors, or improve their energy efficiency.</p> <p>In addition, much of the housing stock in Mifflin County, especially in Lewistown, is not accessible for an individual who uses a walker or a wheelchair. In order for Mifflin County residents with disabilities to remain in the community, to age in place or transition from institutions back into the community, more homes need to be made wheelchair accessible.</p>	<p>1A. Improve the Condition of Existing Housing and Neighborhoods.</p>	<p>1A1. Provide technical and financial resources to bring owner and rental properties up to code.</p> <p>1A2. Provide resources to make existing housing accessible.</p>
<p>2. There needs to be an adequate supply of various types of housing to meet the needs and desires of the growing workforce of professionals. Currently, many households choose to live in Centre County for its “better” schools, “more” amenities, and established</p>	<p>2A. Increase housing opportunities for middle income and professional households.</p>	<p>2A1. Make living in Mifflin County more attractive to middle income and professional households.</p>

Housing Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>professional community.</p>		
<p>3. Given the age and condition of the existing housing stock, especially in Lewistown, it is critical that new affordable rental housing opportunities be created through new construction, substantial rehabilitation of current residential properties or adaptive reuse of non-residential properties. New housing development utilizing public funds also have the requirement that a portion of the units be wheelchair accessible, thereby also addressing the need for accessible housing. In order to accomplish this, the Housing Coalition or another designated entity needs to identify potential developers, sites and funding sources.</p>	<p>3A. Increase housing opportunities for low income households.</p>	<p>3A1. Encourage developers to develop additional affordable housing units.</p>
<p>4. Households with special needs, whether physically or socially challenged, need affordable, accessible housing. Further, they may face discrimination and other challenges in the private housing market.</p>	<p>4A. Create new housing opportunities for households with special needs.</p>	<p>4A1. Encourage developers of low income housing tax credit (LIHTC) projects to target units for people with disabilities.</p> <p>4A2. Create housing resources for people</p>

Housing Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
		with criminal justice involvement.
<p>5. Mifflin County has a sizable and growing elderly population. While there are affordable housing resources in the county, there are not enough affordable, accessible housing units to meet the need of this aging population. The Mifflin County Housing Authority reported that the largest demand for affordable housing is for units for elderly households.</p>	<p>5A. Increase the number of affordable accessible rental housing units for elderly households.</p>	<p>5A1. Encourage the development of new affordable housing for the elderly; provide technical and financial assistance in such development where appropriate.</p>

Table 6 – Housing Activity Details

Housing Summary Activities	Specific Activities
1A1. Provide technical and financial resources to bring owner and rental properties up to code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue support of the county housing rehabilitation program; increase support with additional funding sources. This program has benefited many homeowners, and may well have increased the property values of the home affected as well as surrounding properties. b. Encourage municipalities with significant rental properties to enact rental registration and rental inspections programs. Juniata Terrace Borough has such a program and Lewistown is preparing one. Municipalities could contract with one of these municipalities or a third party for rental inspections services. c. Develop incentives for landlords with vacant residential units above commercial properties, e.g. in the Monument Square Area, to bring their units up to code and rent them. This would be an excellent resource for people who work in the Borough, especially hospital workers who must commute at irregular hours. It would also provide a 24 hour presence in the downtown area, which would be a deterrent to crime and bring a greater vibrancy to the area which, in turn, could generate the creation of new businesses. d. Develop incentives for landlords to bring their units up to federal housing quality standards (HQS) and address lead-based paint issues. Incentives could include low-interest loans and grants for rehabilitation of rental properties, and/or a property improvement tax abatement program. Some communities have targeted tax abatement efforts to larger investors whose activities would have a major impact on the community. Target incentives toward properties that would qualify as historic and whose owners could therefore take advantage of historic tax credits to aid in financing rehabilitation. e. Enforce codes to encourage maintenance and upgrading of rental properties. Explore successful best practices in other counties and communities.

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Housing Summary Activities	Specific Activities
<p>1A2. Provide resources to make existing housing accessible.</p>	<p>a. Obtain information about PHFA’s Home Modifications Construction Officer Pilot Program (HMCO) and share with Mifflin County’s disability organizations including those involved with Nursing Home Transition. This pilot program, developed by the PA Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) provides professional home modification contractors to work with homeowners. They conduct assessments for home modifications and follow the home modification process through to completion. Mifflin County is one of the counties included in the pilot with services coordinated by the Center for Independent Living of Central PA (CILCP).</p>
<p>2A1. Make living in Mifflin County more attractive to middle income and professional households.</p>	<p>a. Increase opportunities for first time resident homebuyers. Current Mifflin County residents, those choosing to return to Mifflin County and new/prospective employees would benefit from First Time Homebuyer programs that provide closing cost and or down payment assistance and homebuyer counseling. This should be pursued with local lenders who would benefit from creating a new client base for their banks. Programs are available through the PA Housing Finance Agency and could also be funded through the Mifflin County Housing Trust Fund (established by Act 137 of 1992). The Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh’s First Front Door Program for first time homebuyer is currently unavailable but is expected to restart in the future.</p> <p>b. Attract other potential residents. The affordability of Mifflin County and its proximity to State College are potential selling features to graduate students and young faculty at Penn State. Marketing materials targeted to this population promoting the desirability of living in Mifflin County should be developed and made available to these individuals and families.</p> <p>c. Attract developers to create more housing opportunities in Mifflin County. Using information obtained from employers about current and prospective employees, develop a marketing package to entice developers to choose to build in Mifflin County, including both new construction and adaptive reuse of buildings, such as</p>

Housing Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>schools and buildings in downtown Lewistown.</p> <p>d. Investigate models of Employer Assisted Housing (AEH). Employer Assisted Housing is a set of incentives that employers provide to encourage people choose to live near their place of employment. Studies have shown that this results in less absenteeism and greater job satisfaction. EAH is generally used in communities where housing costs are very high and employees choose to live in more distant, but less expensive markets. However, the same incentives can be used to overcome other real or perceived barriers.</p> <p>Among the incentives employers can provide are closing cost and/or down payment assistance, mortgage guarantee or insurance, mortgage buy-down (paying points at closing bringing down interest rates), housing site subsidy (employer sells or leases land at a discount to a developer), construction financing to developers, tax abatements for buyers and purchase guarantee to developers. These types of incentives should be discussed with the major employers to determine their interest and with their employees or potential employees to determine what impact these incentives might have on their desire to settle in the county.</p>
<p>3A1. Encourage developers to develop additional affordable housing units.</p>	<p>a. Encourage developers and owners of affordable rental housing developments to access funding under the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Act. This recent amendment to the HUD Section 811 Supportive Housing Program allows rental assistance to be used in conjunction with LIHTC or other housing development funding sources or in existing housing to provide site-based rental subsidies to up to 25% of the units in an affordable housing development. The first allocation of funding under the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Act became available spring 2012 and the PA Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) will apply for these funds in order to make rental assistance available to developers of affordable housing. This will incentivize developers and property managers to target units to people with</p>

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Housing Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>disabilities.</p> <p>b. Identify the market need(s). For units for special needs populations, identify service partners and bring them into the planning process early.</p> <p>c. Identify potential sites for affordable rental housing.</p> <p>f. Develop criteria for ranking sites for affordable housing, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to employment, services and amenities; • Coordination with other development/planning activities such as Main Street/Elm Street programs or other economic development initiatives; • Availability and price of the site; • Absence of or remediation of impediments to housing development such as environmental problems, zoning issues, potential NIMBYism; • Availability of public sewer and water, or is large enough for installation of an on-site system <p>g. Identify sites that provide opportunities for affordable housing development.</p> <p>h. Evaluate the sites for either affordable housing or market-rate housing development.</p> <p>a. Contact affordable housing developers who have been active in Mifflin and surrounding counties to determine their interest in developing additional units in Mifflin County.</p> <p>b. Assist developers in obtaining available studies and data to support and strengthen their funding applications.</p>
<p>4A1. Encourage developers of low income housing tax credit (LIHTC) projects to target units for people with</p>	<p>a. 1. Encourage developers of Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects to coordinate their development plans with the Local Lead Agency (LLA) early in the planning process. This will maximize recruitment of households who need the accessibility</p>

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Housing Summary Activities	Specific Activities
disabilities.	features and/or services that will be available. The Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural PA is the designated LLA for Mifflin County. The LLA's roles include: providing a single point of contact for referrals to developments; assuring property managers receive referrals in a timely manner; assisting tenants to secure one-time move-in funds; assuring that tenants receive supports and assistance needed to comply with lease requirements; providing/coordinating/or contracting with agencies that provide services to populations targeted in the development; and serving as a contact for property managers to address tenancy concerns.
4A2. Create housing resources for people with criminal justice involvement.	a. Assist the Human Services Department in identifying and evaluating sites for transitional or permanent housing for people with a criminal record.
5A1. Encourage the development of new affordable housing for the elderly.	<p>a. Identify the areas of the county that have the greatest need/demand for housing for elderly households. Using sources such as census data, affordable housing waiting lists, market studies conducted for previous housing developments, and stakeholder input including the Nursing Home Transition Coordinator (who – verify), determine where in the county there is the greatest need for additional housing for the elderly.</p> <p>b. Once the highest priority locations are identified, locate potential development sites using the criteria proposed in Goal 2 above.</p> <p>c. Determine what type or types of elderly housing are most needed. Consider the size of the unit as well as temporary/emergency housing vs. permanent housing.</p> <p>d. Obtain information on shared housing, also known as co-housing. There are many different models of shared housing. In some, an aging adult shares his or her home with other aging adults or younger people, sharing costs and responsibilities. This is typically coordinated by a local organization. Information is available from the National Shared Housing Resource Center, http://nationalsharedhousing.org/.</p> <p>e. Identify potential developers. As described above, there are developers who have</p>

Housing Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>previous experience in Mifflin County and in surrounding counties that may be interested in developing new housing, especially when sites are already identified and there is full cooperation from key stakeholders in the county.</p> <p>f. Remain current on the funding priorities and application schedules for the key funders of affordable housing for the elderly, e.g. PHFA, HUD Section 202, Federal Home Loan Bank. The due dates from previous funding cycles provide a good estimate for future cycles. The window from the date an application is announced until the application is due is not adequate to fully plan a project. It is therefore important to have the above planning steps completed so that the county or a developer can submit a viable application on schedule. In addition, funding priorities change from year to year and it is important to know what those priorities are as early in the planning process as possible to be sure that the proposed project is aligned with priorities.</p>

Table 7 – Public/Community Facilities Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Public/Community Facilities Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
1.	1A. Encourage the planning, provision and maintenance of water and systems to serve existing and planned development.	<p>1A1. Coordinate the planning of new and expanded water and sewer systems with other community and economic development planning.</p> <p>1A2. Support local efforts to improve existing water and sewer facilities and protect water resources.</p> <p>1A3. Encourage the use of best operation and maintenance practices for small water systems.</p>
2.	2A. Prevent the degradation of surface water and groundwater quality by stormwater.	2A1. Require effective stormwater management and advocate the same among municipalities with their own land development regulations.
3.	3A. Expand of telecommunications, gas, and electrical services throughout existing and planned development areas and into rural areas for public safety.	3A1. Encourage private utility companies to provide adequate gas, electric, and telecommunication services for existing and future users.

Table 8 – Public/Community Facilities Activity Details

Summary Activities	Specific Activities
<p>1A1. Coordinate the planning of new and expanded water and sewer systems with other community and economic development planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discourage the establishment of new small water systems. b. Maintain a countywide Water Advisory Committee to identify, monitor, evaluate, encourage, facilitate, etc. water service solutions that are in the public interest. c. Update the Mifflin County Sewer Plan to support regionalization of sewer systems, where desired by local officials. d. Provide adequate public water and sewer service to existing communities and planned growth areas. e. Collaborate with municipal officials and authorities to ensure water and sewer facility extensions and upgrades are consistent with the Future Land Use Plan. For example, urban and suburban levels of development should be located where public sewer and water facilities can adequately support additional growth, either at present or through limited expansion and upgrading, consistent with the High and Limited Growth Areas described in the Future Land Use Plan. f. Assist and encourage local municipalities without an Act 537 Plan, or which have not updated their plan within the past 10 years, to develop or update their plans. Collaborate with municipal officials and authorities to ensure that planned service areas are consistent with the Future Land Use Plan.
<p>1A2. Support local efforts to improve existing water and sewer facilities and protect water resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assist in improving water and sewer facilities, especially in service areas serving low to moderate income residents. b. Consider preparing brochures concerning on-lot sewage system maintenance and other sewage disposal issues. c. Consider holding seminars for municipal officials, citizens, realtors, developers, and other constituents regarding sewage facilities planning and PENNVEST and other funding for plan implementation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MIFFLIN COUNTY, PA

Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>d. Maintain a list of municipal sewage enforcement officers and establish an open dialogue with the SEOs to identify problems and status of Act 537 Plan implementation. Also, continue to maintain an open dialogue with sewer and water authority officials and offer assistance when necessary. The county could consider appointing a countywide sewage enforcement officer whose responsibilities should include, but are not limited to, overseeing municipal sewage facilities planning and enforcement, providing technical and grant writing assistance to local officials, and coordinating with municipal and county subdivision and plan reviews.</p>
<p>1A3. Encourage the use of best operation and maintenance practices for small water systems.</p>	<p>a. Encourage existing small water systems to create and maintain financial records including annual budget, revenue and expenses.</p> <p>b. Encourage small water systems to take advantage of programs PADEP has available to assist small water systems including the Monitoring Reimbursement Program, Small Water Systems Regionalization Grant Program, Formation of Water Authorities Program, Small Water System Consolidation Construction Grant Program and Water and Waste Water Assistance and Outreach Program.</p> <p>c. Encourage all individual small water systems to identify, evaluate and implement cooperative/restructuring solutions to water service needs when possible; this would include Lewistown-Forest Hills and Lewistown-North Hills acquisitions and satellite operation.</p> <p>d. Assist municipalities and other small water systems in applying for funding for improvements. Consider a “block” application approach, i.e. one funding request for improvements across multiple systems. An intergovernmental agreement for the single funding application would demonstrate regional cooperation in addition to the water supply plan itself.</p>
<p>2A1. Require effective stormwater management and advocate the same among municipalities with their</p>	<p>a. Encourage local municipalities to adopt the Mifflin County stormwater management ordinance.</p>

Summary Activities	Specific Activities
<p>own land development regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Sponsor, host and/or organize a stormwater management training program for local officials and developers. c. Support stormwater management projects with funding from the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts' (PACD) "Mini-Project Grant Program." The PACD administers two grant programs that provide up to \$1,000 for small projects that benefit the environment. The Chesapeake Bay Program Mini-Project Program is targeted to activities within Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay watershed, and the Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Mini-Project Program is open to all applicants in Pennsylvania. For information and examples of locally implemented mini-projects, visit www.pacd.org.
<p>3A1. Encourage private utility companies to provide adequate gas, electric, and telecommunication services for existing and future users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure local utility representatives having an understanding of the county's designated growth areas. Provide the future land use map in hard copy or hyperlink to service providers to inform them of planned growth patterns within the county. b. Maintain GIS data of the County's utility service areas, such as natural gas. Request service areas data, as needed.

Table 9 – Public/Community Services Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Public/Community Services		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>1. Emergency services to Mifflin County residents are highly dependent on citizen volunteers. Volunteerism in this field is challenged by the county’s aging population and commuter trends, which reduce availability, and training time and costs, and time needed for fundraising, which reduce interest. Volunteer service organizations need technical and financial support from the public sector.</p> <p>The quality perception of police services has improved over the past decade but remains lower than that of fire and EMS services. Providing local police service is costly for those municipalities that have local service and prohibitive for others.</p> <p>Known hazards in Mifflin County have been identified. The top hazard is flooding of areas developed prior to floodplain regulation, followed by winter (snow) storms, wildfires and</p>	<p>1A. Provide efficient and effective emergency services, including prevention and response to public safety, fire, medical, hazardous materials, and natural disaster emergencies.</p>	<p>1A1. Provide communication for and coordination of emergency services.</p> <p>1A2. Support volunteer emergency service organizations with advocacy, public education, and funding.</p> <p>1A3. Strengthen Mifflin County’s rural policing strategies and to promote community safety.</p> <p>1A4. Implement the Tri-County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.</p>

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Public/Community Services		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
radon exposure. Prevention and efficient response can reduce the risk and damage from these hazards.		
2. Accessible and affordable health care, including dental services, is still needed, especially for low income residents.	2A. Support access to health care services, including dental services.	2A1. Support agencies that provide services to low income residents.
3. It is critical that youth receive a quality K-12 education that enables them to enter the workforce or post-secondary institutions with core capabilities and technical skills. Public schools are challenged with competing providers, evolving technology, changing funding paradigms, and increasing transportation costs that result in inefficiencies across the district. The district needs community support and participation in refining its offerings and service delivery. In addition, workforce training programs, some beginning in high school, need to be aligned with opportunities in the existing local	3A. Support the provision of high quality educational facilities and services for children, youth and the workforce.	3A1. Support the school districts serving Mifflin County with advocacy and infrastructure. 3A2. Expand educational opportunities. 3A3. Promote the understanding of community planning for the local community and the importance of public participation.

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Public/Community Services		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>economy nor those of industries targeted for growth.</p> <p>Furthermore, the County needs to invest in quality education programs for its citizens and elected and appointed officials.</p>		
<p>4. While the library system is still a hub for literacy, it has become a portal to online resources for many people in the community as well. To support this service, computer and network hardware needs to be maintained and periodically upgraded, and software offerings and online service subscriptions need to be evaluated and expanded.</p>	<p>4A. Ensure the adequate provision of library facilities and information resources to meet the contemporary needs of citizens.</p>	<p>4A1. Improve the technology capabilities of Mifflin County’s libraries and schools.</p>
<p>5. Waste disposal contracts are not timed to align with solid waste planning. The same is true in Juniata Count, which makes use of Mifflin County solid waste facilities. A bi-county solid waste planning effort was started but not completed. A completed solid waste plan is needed.</p>	<p>5A. Provide effective solid waste management (reuse, recycling and disposal) services.</p>	<p>5A1. Finalize the Mifflin/Juniata Regional Solid Waste Plan to bring the plan into sync with the various waste disposal-related contracts.</p> <p>5A2. Implement the Mifflin County Solid Waste Management Plan.</p>

Public/Community Services		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>Following plan completion, the plan needs to be implemented to address recycling and disposal needs toward county and state goals.</p>		
<p>6. The woodlands, high quality streams, floodplains and wetlands of Mifflin County are critical to the quality of life that residents enjoy. Their protection from development and access are important for public recreation, including wildlife observation, hunting and fishing activities, as well as overall water quality.</p> <p>There is no park or nature center for environmental education, no special use facilities such as skate parks, and convenient access to the river and streams is limited. These types of parks would showcase outdoor recreation in the County's urban and rural environments.</p> <p>Per population-based parkland needs, more than 260 acres of local parkland for close-to-home recreation was</p>	<p>6A. Provide parkland and recreation facilities to meet residents' recreational needs.</p>	<p>6A1. Implement the Juniata/Mifflin County Greenways, Open Space, and Rural Recreation Plan.</p>

Public/Community Services

Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>needed in 2010.</p> <p>Municipalities have limited human and financial resources for park planning, acquisition, and development. Furthermore, only Derry Township has adopted authorized planning tools to acquire parkland (at no cost to the municipality) through the land development process.</p> <p>The benefits of greenways and trails are not well understood by policy makers or landowners and not integrated into development and conservation policies. Education and revised policies are needed.</p>		

Table 10 – Public/Community Services Activity Details

Summary Activities	Specific Activities
1A1. Provide communication for and coordination of emergency services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maximize the use of the various funding programs administered by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to provide adequate equipment, supplies, and training to all county and local volunteer organizations, and to assist in the development of comprehensive disaster preparedness and assistance plans, programs, capabilities, and organizations. b. Maximize the use of the Public Safety Emergency Telephone Act (Act 78) funds to ensure the county's central dispatch system is maintained and upgraded as needed to ensure optimum communication performance. c. Support initiatives that promote consolidating local resources to maximize efficiency and responsiveness of local emergency services. d. Encourage local municipalities and volunteer fire service agencies operating outside public water service areas to implement dry hydrant systems. Wayne Township, for example, has implemented nine dry hydrant systems to increase the adequacy of fire suppression water supplies.
1A2. Support volunteer emergency service organizations with advocacy, public education, and funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Encourage volunteerism. Consider use of public service announcements, volunteer recognition programs and other means. These mechanisms may also be supplemented by developing a promotional video and/or brochure targeted at the area's younger populations, particularly, high school age groups. b. Encourage municipalities to support the fire companies that serve their citizens. Six of 16 municipalities currently contribute through a municipal fire tax on properties or annual municipal contribution. c. Consider allocating a portion of the county's Act 78 funds to prepare public education programs on fire safety in conjunction with national Fire Prevention Week. This may also be used as an opportunity to solicit volunteer and monetary

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>support for local volunteer emergency services.</p> <p>d. Encourage local legislators to support state initiatives that provide increased funding assistance to local volunteer emergency service agencies.</p>
<p>1A3. Strengthen Mifflin County's rural policing strategies and to promote community safety.</p>	<p>a. Encourage local and state police officials to seek technical assistance and training for issues of community concerns. The Pennsylvania State Police, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (www.ojp.usdoj.gov), and The Penn State Justice and Safety Institute (JASI, http://www.jasi.outreach.psu.edu) are potential resources for programs, and research on law enforcement and victim assistance in small town and rural communities.</p> <p>b. Support initiatives to provide regional police services. Compared to multiple independent police departments, regional police agencies reduce costs, increase uniformity and consistency of law enforcement, improve coordination of law enforcement services, offer better training and personnel efficiency, increase career enhancement opportunities for police officers, provide better police management and supervision, and improve in police personnel distribution and deployment. However, consolidation of departments often results in a loss of local non-enforcement services (e.g., parking meter enforcement), reduced citizen contact, and forfeiture of local control. Alternately, support municipalities that contract with a neighboring municipality and its police department for local police services.</p>
<p>1A4. Implement the Tri-County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.</p>	<p>a. Support flood hazard mitigation, e.g. buy-outs, as well as effective re-use of such lands for public open space and recreation.</p>

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
2A1. Support agencies that provide services to low income residents.	a. Continue to provide funding to the Mifflin Juniata Dental Clinic, which provides dental services to low income residents.
3A1. Support the school districts serving Mifflin County with advocacy and infrastructure.	<p>a. Support the Mifflin County and Mount Union School Districts at the state and federal legislative (funding) levels.</p> <p>b. Continue efforts to expand broadband infrastructure.</p> <p>c. Work with the Mifflin County and Mount Union School Districts and community education partners to identify the county's employment opportunities. Develop or refine curriculum offerings to prepare students for local employment opportunities. Adjust curriculum standards to ensure students are prepared to enter these job markets.</p>
3A2. Expand educational opportunities.	<p>a. Support Mifflin County Education and Scholarship Foundation.</p> <p>b. Support the South Hills School of Business and Technology and the Penn State Learning Center in their efforts to provide for residents' educational needs.</p>
3A3. Promote the understanding of community planning for the local community and the importance of public participation.	<p>a. Sponsor, host, and/or organize educational programs at the middle school and high school levels to emphasize how residents' decisions impact the County's economic, social and natural environments and overall quality of life. Consider resources developed by developed by the American Planning Association (www.planning.org) and the National 4-H Council (www.fourhcouncil.edu).</p> <p>b. Appoint/Continue appointments of a Mifflin County government liaison to the</p>

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>various community-based education organizations. Each liaison should help identify needs and county-based assistance.</p> <p>c. Support efforts by Downtown Lewistown, Inc., and the local business community in facilitating the development of vocational and technical education programs.</p>
4A1. Improve the technology capabilities of Mifflin County's libraries and schools.	<p>a. Support the extension of broadband service to these facilities.</p> <p>b. Support the Mifflin County Library System through annual financial assistance.</p>
5A1. Implement the Mifflin County Solid Waste Management Plan.	<p>a. Consider implementing a countywide recycling program. As an example, explore the feasibility of developing a demonstration recycling program outside the Borough of Lewistown.</p> <p>b. Support PA Cleanways of Mifflin County in its efforts to cleanup illegal dumps sites.</p>
6A1. Implement the Juniata/Mifflin County Greenways, Open Space, and Rural Recreation Plan.	<p>a. Coordinate the development of recreational facilities through Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council and local and non-profit organizations.</p> <p>b. Continue to support pilot projects, including a boat launch on the Juniata River between the Newton Hamilton and Granville accesses, a dog park in Derry Township, and programs for tweens. Publicize the opening/dedication and future successes, large and small, to encourage continued support for public investments in recreation.</p> <p>c. As pilot projects near completion, select 2-3 new projects to implement from among those with public support and willing partners. For example, other projects and priorities from the plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three regional parks and more municipal parks, e.g. Fort Granville Heritage Park in Granville Township

Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of the Juniata River Water Trail• Extension of the Main Line Canal Greenway and natural creek- and ridgebased conservation greenways• Programs and awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities for people ages 18 to 45.• Programs that create active healthy life styles and family connections. Move from sports and summer activities into year round opportunities in music, arts, and social activity.• An environmental education system. <p>d. Amend the County's subdivision and land development ordinance to include regulations for the provision of common open space and recreational facilities. The amendment should provide for a mandatory open space requirement for conventional residential developments, as well as mobile home and manufactured home park developments, and land dedication or a fee in lieu of land dedication. This provision is common for residential development and is not precluded for non-residential development. Where land is not suitable or desirable for public recreation areas, fees in lieu of land dedication can be used to fund park and facility development in the vicinity or used as the local match for state grants.</p>

Table 11 – Economic Development Needs, Objectives and Summary Activities

Economic Development		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
1. In order to achieve the economic objectives identified within this Plan, the County must establish broad economic leadership to facilitate and coordinate economic development efforts throughout the County.	1A. Coordinate and guide the economic development efforts of Mifflin County.	1A1. Establish a Mifflin County Economic Development Commission (<i>or reconceive Team Mifflin County as a public-private partnership</i>) and its mission.
2. Although the creation of the Economic Development Commission is important, the implementation of the County's Economic Development will require regular staff support.	2A. Expand the Planning and Development Department to include Economic Development.	2A1. Commit staff time (at least 12-16 hours per week) towards the effort of implementing the recommendations of this Economic Development Plan. 2A2. Train county staff in the field of economic development.
3. In today's ever-changing economy, it is critical that the County's youth be provided with quality K-12 education that enables them to enter the workforce with core capabilities and technical skills and that provides a foundation for continued learning at post-secondary education levels. The skills gained through the Mifflin County's public education system and	3A. Build and maintain a more highly skilled workforce.	3A1. Determine needs, resources, and gaps in the local workforce development system. 3A2. Educate the County's youth on the importance of having a quality education and the opportunities that exist for those who further their education after high school.

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Economic Development		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>its additional workforce training programs are not meeting the technical skill requirements of the existing local industry nor those of industries targeted for growth. The County needs to invest in quality education programs to properly train its present and future workforce to enable them to gain and retain consistent employment, and to grow the County's overall economy.</p>		<p>3A3. Inform adults of educational programs as well as opportunities for employment within the County.</p>
<p>4. Industrial parks are currently at full capacity with no surrounding area available for expansion. The County should work with the MCIDC, with input from local officials, to identify new sites conducive to industrial and/or commerce parks that have ready access to rail freight and highway transportation services.</p>	<p>4A. Expand the County's industrial space capacity and offerings.</p>	<p>4A1. Identify and prioritize sites to be developed for light industry and high tech industry.</p>
<p>5. There are a number of sites and properties located throughout Mifflin County that are underutilized. These sites represent an opportunity for Mifflin County to not only strengthen</p>	<p>5A. Identify and prioritize underutilized properties and/or sites for re-use or redevelopment.</p>	<p>5A1. Identify and prioritize sites to be re-used or redeveloped.</p> <p>5A2. Undertake re-use or redevelopment plans.</p>

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Economic Development		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
its tax base, but to reinvigorate these areas with new life and energy and convey a positive image of the County to its residents and visitors alike.		
6. Mifflin County is competing on regional, state, national, and global levels for new business and industry with other communities using financing tools to encourage redevelopment and to entice developers to invest in a community. Financing tools at one or more levels could help to attract private investment into the County.	6A. Develop financial incentives.	6A1. Identify geographies for financing tools such as the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Abatement (LERTA) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) programs.
7. With the exception of downtown Lewistown, Mifflin County lacks the kind of retail environments that provide an opportunity for the clustering of boutique retail stores. Some of the County's older plazas and strip centers have not been renovated since construction, one or more decades ago, and require new facades, if not redevelopment, to create attractive shopping environments that	7A. Create unique retail environments throughout Mifflin County	7A1. Explore how successful unique retail destinations develop and operate. 7A2. Identify target locations for unique retail in Mifflin County. 7A3. Provide guidance and technical assistance to developers interested in unique retail destinations.

Economic Development		
Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
appeal to destination retailers and customers.		
8. Perceptions of Mifflin County's quality of life and quality of economy range from positive to negative and include "unknown." Mifflin County needs to actively promote itself as a quality place to conduct business and as a place to live, work, visit and play.	8A. Promote a positive image of the County.	8A1. Develop a brand and marketing program to promote a positive image of the County.
9. Having plenty of things to do year round makes a community an enjoyable place to live, work, and visit. "Things to do" in small towns and rural communities include parks and recreation facilities and recreation and cultural programs and special events – places and programs that enable people to be physically, mentally and socially active both indoors and outdoors. The County's scenic beauty and outdoor recreational resources, in particular, could help to position this central Pennsylvania region as a tourism destination as the logo "Discover Our Good Nature"	9A. Foster and promote recreation and place-based tourism as an economic development opportunity suited to Mifflin County.	9A1. Develop and promote recreation opportunities that utilize heritage and natural resources.

Economic Development

Needs	Objectives	Summary Activities
<p>advocates. The Juniata/Mifflin Counties Greenway, Open Space and Rural Recreation Plan should guide the County's efforts to develop and promote recreational and cultural opportunities that could serve residents and visitors.</p>		

Table 12 – Economic Development Activity Details

Summary Activities	Specific Activities
1A1. Establish a Mifflin County Economic Development Commission (<i>or re-conceive Team Mifflin County as a public-private partnership</i>) and its mission.	a. Establish a Mifflin County Economic Development Commission (<i>or re-conceive Team Mifflin County as a public-private partnership</i>) and its mission: to coordinate and guide the economic development efforts of Mifflin County. The Commission would be the official economic development arm of the County. Its 11 to 15 members would be appointed by the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners by resolution and serve staggered terms. The Commission would meet quarterly to discuss economic development issues and to monitor the implementation of this Economic Development Plan. It would file an annual “State of the County” report with the County Commissioners and hold an annual meeting to present the report to leaders of the community, including local officials, business leaders, non-profits, and other institutions engaged in improving the economic climate in Mifflin County.
2A1. Commit staff time (at least 12-16 hours per week) towards the effort of implementing the recommendations of this Economic Development Plan.	a. Retitle the Planning and Development Department to include economic development, e.g. as the Community and Economic Development Department. b. Allocate at least 12-16 hours per week towards the effort of implementing the recommendations of this Economic Development Plan.
2A2. Train county staff in the field of economic development.	a. Provide funding to properly train county staff in the field of economic development. For example, a basic course in economic development is offered by through Penn State, Harrisburg Campus.
3A1. Determine needs, resources, and gaps in the local workforce development system.	a. Conduct a community audit to determine needs, resources, and gaps in the local workforce development system. This would include conducting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor analysis to gather information on employment status (employed, underemployed, re-entering retirees); employment location; commuter patterns; willingness to travel; interest in changing jobs; occupational background and

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<p>skills; education training; and wage requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer analysis to determine recruiting experience; labor characteristics; commuting patterns; training capabilities and program; and outside training assistance currently provided. <p>b. Identify training programs to be developed through the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit-11 and the Mifflin County School District based on the gaps identified through the labor and employer analyses.</p>
<p>3A2. Educate the County’s youth on the importance of having a quality education and the opportunities that exist for those who further their education after high school.</p>	<p>c. Develop special fairs and events at primary and secondary schools to educate the County’s youth on the importance of having a quality education and the opportunities that exist for those who further their education after high school.</p>
<p>3A3. Inform adults of educational programs as well as opportunities for employment within the County.</p>	<p>a. Develop special programs and events (or present programs at community events) geared towards the County’s adults to keep them informed of educational programs as well as opportunities for employment within the County.</p>
<p>4A1. Identify and prioritize sites to be developed for light industry and high tech industry.</p>	<p>a. Develop and maintain a prioritized inventory of potential industrial properties to expand the County’s industrial space capacity and offerings. Ensure that all rail freight industrial site expansion and development opportunities are coordinated with the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority.</p> <p>a. Rank each site by the following criteria; rate each criterion on a scale of 1 (low) to 3 (high):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability • Developable acreage • Access to roads/rail • Infrastructure (sewer, water, electric, broadband, etc.)

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compatibility with surrounding land uses b. Select one or more of the highest ranking sties for development or further investment. c. Seek funding to develop priority site into industrial and/or commerce parks.
<p>5A1. Identify and prioritize sites to be re-used or redeveloped.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain a prioritized inventory of potential properties/sites that are underutilized, vacant and in need of redevelopment. b. Rank each site by the following criteria; rate each criterion on a scale of 1 (low) to 3 (high): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability • Location (i.e. gateways, commercial plaza/strip center, etc.) • Infrastructure (sewer, water, electric, etc.) c. Prioritize the sites based on the highest score received during the ranking process.
<p>5A2. Undertake re-use or redevelopment plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop a highest and best use plan for the priority sites. b. Develop a redevelopment plan for each site to determine resources required. c. Seek assistance and identify partnerships needed to redevelop sites according to redevelopment plan.
<p>6A1. Identify geographies for financing tools such as the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Abatement (LERTA) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify areas to be designated as LERTA Districts and TIF Districts. These two programs should be used on sites identified as high priority development/redevelopment sites. b. Meet with local elected officials to discuss the LERTA and TIF programs.

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Develop LERTA program and guidelines. d. Develop authorizing ordinances to be adopted by each of the participating municipalities, as well as resolutions for the County and School District, to authorize desired financing programs. e. Promote financing tools in conjunction with a broader marketing campaign.
<p>7A1. Explore how successful unique retail destinations develop and operate.</p> <p>7A2. Identify target locations for unique retail in Mifflin County.</p> <p>7A3. Provide guidance and technical assistance to developers interested in unique retail destinations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify areas within the County for site development to enable the clustering of unique, boutique retail stores. b. Visit places that offer boutique retail stores and restaurants to understand how the projects evolved. For example, Kitchen Kettle Village in Intercourse, Pennsylvania, is an example of a retail village that began as a two-car garage cannery and has expanded to include restaurants, a canning kitchen, boutique retailers, and special events. c. Provide technical and financial assist to developers, such as that of the Derry Heights project, to create unique retail and entertainment anchors.
<p>8A1. Develop a brand and marketing program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop a brand image for Mifflin County’s economic development program. The image should embody positive attributes of Mifflin County’s location, workforce, infrastructure, public services, and culture. b. Develop and implement a marketing plan that identifies the target audience(s) and methods of advertising to be used (print material, billboards, etc.). c. Develop and distribute marketing materials that support the marketing plan. The marketing materials may include the single page profiles, available online and compiled in hard copy, about County assets, County demographics, Available properties and areas for development, and financial incentives.

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Summary Activities	Specific Activities
<p>9A1. Promote recreation and tourism development opportunities that utilize heritage and natural resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Mifflin County should continue to have a close alliance with the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau. Continue to invite broader participation in the Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council. b. Support the Juniata River Valley Regional Tourism Plan. Incorporate the parks and outdoor recreation opportunities as part of the tourism program. Develop brochures on outdoor recreation destinations for racks in visitor locations such as rest stops, hotels, and restaurants. c. Use local recreation opportunities as tourism draws. Focus on the activities that appeal to both residents and tourists such as bicycling, hiking, enjoying nature, and special events. Coordinate efforts with the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau. d. Undertake projects in recreation that utilize heritage and natural resources to advance tourism for both local "staycations" and distance travelers. This may include the development and promotion of cycling routes along historic sites, and interpretive trails and programs highlighting of how local industry has used natural resources. e. Consider the development of an agri-tourism program. Work with willing partners who support the idea to find, develop, and promote on-farm lodging, pick-your-own produce, and other activities. f. Identify gaps in hospitality services.

References

Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan (August 2013 draft)

Mifflin County Quality of Life Survey (2011) and Report (2012)

U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2010 Census.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, hud.gov.