



**SOUTH MOUNTAIN
PARTNERSHIP**
CONSERVATION NETWORK

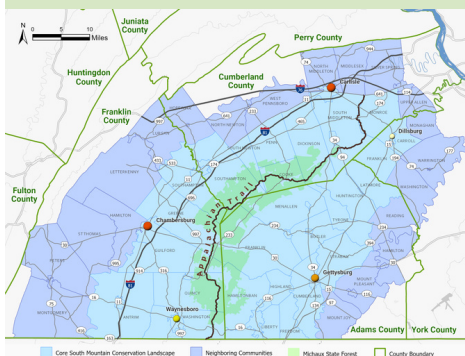
South Mountain Conservation Landscape



Fast Facts

Including portions of Adams, Cumberland, Franklin and York counties, the South Mountain landscape boasts 600,000 acres of:

- Local, state, and federal parks and forest, including the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and greenway
- Northern terminus of the Blue Ridge Mountains - critical and unique habitat and wildlife
- Working farms, high quality soils, and specialized agriculture
- Rich cultural sites and historic downtowns - including pre-contact
- Headwater creeks and streams that support water quality and recreation



What is a Conservation Landscape Initiative?

The Conservation Landscape Initiative is a place-based strategy implemented by PA DCNR for natural resource stewardship and advocacy in key landscapes across our state where there are strong natural assets and local readiness and support for land conservation, locally-driven planning, and community economic revitalization efforts.

What is the South Mountain Partnership?

The South Mountain Partnership (SMP) is a collaborative network of people and organizations protecting and promoting the agricultural, natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the region in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and York counties of southcentral Pennsylvania. SMP is one of PA DCNR's eight identified conservation landscapes.

Vision and Goals:

The South Mountain Partnership envisions a future of — a landscape of conserved resources and vibrant communities sharing a common sense of place and collaborating on well-planned growth and sustainable economic development.

The Partnership identifies three primary goals:

- Conservation of Landscape Resources - conserving and stewarding the natural, cultural, recreational, and agricultural resources that makes the landscape unique.
- Promotion of Landscape Resources - elevating public awareness of the natural, cultural, recreational, and agricultural resources.
- Connections Across the Landscape - creating a community of collaboration amongst a critical mass of public agencies, non-profit and community organizations, businesses, and citizens.

About the Region

As the northern end of the Blue Ridge Mountains - a mountain range that is an multistate greenway for critical habitat, wildlife, and outdoor recreation spanning from Virginia and Maryland into Pennsylvania, this region features a very unique mix of wildlife, habitat, and culture from where the Blue Ridge Mountains merge with the Ridge & Valley and the Piedmont ecoregions. Unique and central to Pennsylvania's and the United State's historical and cultural development, South Mountain's ridges rise above adjacent foothills and valleys, serving as a dominating presence that has always influenced how people and wildlife travel and has shaped land use, settlement patterns, and cultural development.

In the middle of all this are South Mountain and the 85,000-acre Michaux State Forest; Caledonia, Pine Grove Furnace and Mont Alto state parks; and Kings Gap Environmental Education Center. With its fertile farmlands, clean waterways, renowned trout streams and vast woodlands, the more than 600,000-acre South Mountain Conservation Landscape region is truly unique, but it is a fragile environment that must be protected.



Photo by Sheena Baker



Project Partners

Adams Co. Conservation District
 Adams Co. Office of Planning Development
 Allison-Antrim Museum, Inc.
 Antietam Watershed Association
 Appalachian Trail Museum
 Audubon Mid-Atlantic
 Big Hill Ciderworks
 Campbell Thomas & Co. Architects
 Canan Photographic
 Capital Resource Conservation & Development
 Center for Land Use and Sustainability
 Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
 Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association
 Creek Cleanup Project
 Cumberland Area Economic Development
 Corp./Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau
 Cumberland County Conservation District
 Cumberland County Historical Society
 Cumberland County Planning Department
 Clean Water Cumberland
 Cumberland Valley Appalachian Trail Club
 Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails, Inc.
 Destination Gettysburg
 Dickinson College
 Franklin County Visitors Bureau
 HABPI, Inc.
 Healthy Adams County
 Holy Spirit, a Geisinger Affiliate
 Keystone Trails Association
 Land Conservancy of Adams County
 LEAF Project Inc
 Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor
 Mercersburg Area Council for Wellness
 Pa Forestry Association
 PA Conservation Heritage
 Partnership for Better Health
 Penn National Golf Course Community
 Penn State Mont Alto
 Pennsylvania Forestry Association
 Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation
 PA State Historic Preservation Office
 Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve
 Sunnyhill Properties, Inc.
 The Institute
 The LEAF Project
 Totem Pole Playhouse
 Trout Unlimited
 Tuscarora Nature Photographers Association
 Washington Township (Franklin County)
 Watershed Alliance of Adams County
 Wilson College
 York County Planning Commission
 York County Rail Trail Authority

Administered in partnership with:



Network of Partners

SMP sponsors networks of local people, such as working committees and special work groups, by providing strategic counsel, infrastructure, and organizational management. This type of sponsorship provides the support necessary to engage and inspire local leaders to support and lead landscape conservation efforts.

The network of people and organizations share their expertise and resources to protect and promote the South Mountain region in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and York counties of southcentral Pennsylvania.

Launched in 2006, we are a diverse group of non-profits, local and state governments and agencies, businesses, and universities who work together to solve challenges and advocate for a sustainable future: vibrant downtowns, well-planned land development, and sustainable economic development. Our work is made possible by a public-private partnership between PA DCNR, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and many local partners (see right).

Programs

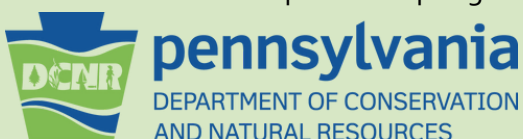
Core responsibilities include convening regular regional meetings as well as special work groups, workshops, and summits, and initiating strategic landscape-level projects such as the State of the Region project, as well as attracting and distributing funding for on-the-ground partners by offering three grant programs: Mini-Grants, Flex Grants, and Research Corps Grants.

More Information

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www.southmountainpartnership.org



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