



Outdoor Recreation in Pennsylvania

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PA Outdoor Recreation Economy

- 5th largest state outdoor recreation economy
- \$29.1 Billion in consumer spending annually
- \$8.6 Billion in wages and salaries
- \$1.9 Billion in state and local tax revenue
- 251,000 direct jobs

70% of Pennsylvanians agree that outdoor recreation amenities such as parks and trails attract new residents and businesses to communities.

(2019 Spring Lion Poll)

OUR OUTDOOR SPACES

6,100 local parks,
totaling **195,000** acres

20 state forests, totaling
2.2 million acres

121 State parks, totaling
300,000 acres

More than **12,000** miles
of trails, including more than
1,700 miles of rail trails



513,000-acre
Allegheny
National Forest

1.5 million
acres of State
Game Lands



19
national
park sites

12 heritage areas,
six with national
designation



3 national
wildlife
refuges

Outdoor Recreation Through COVID-19

Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Spiked during COVID-19

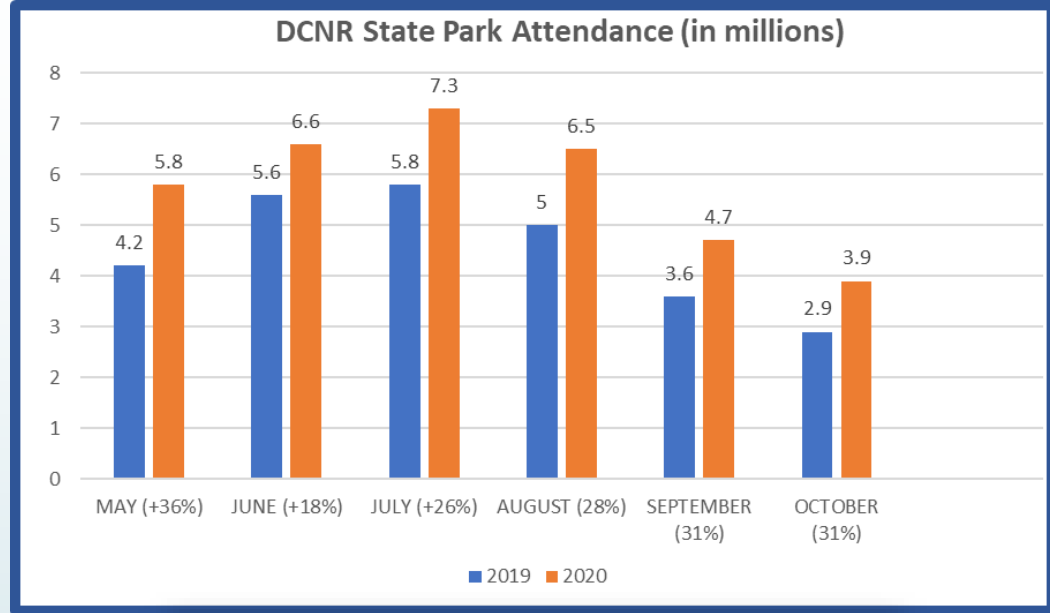
From Spring 2019 to Spring 2020:

- +36%** state park visitors
- +62%** trail users
- +139%** state park camping reservations

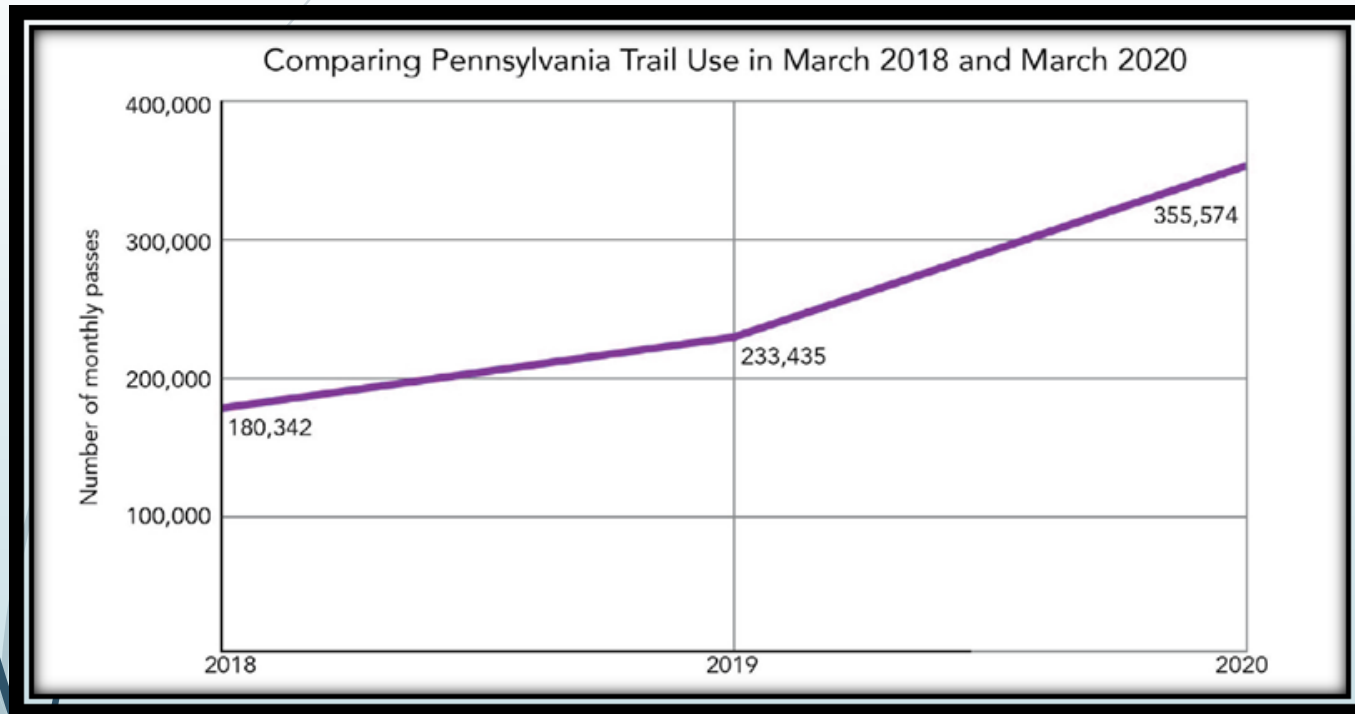
4 out of 5

U.S. adults agree that visiting local parks, trails, and nature preserves is essential for their mental and physical well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Percent increases based on trail counters and state park visitation data. 4/5 figure comes from National Recreation and Parks Association survey, April 2020.



Trail Use

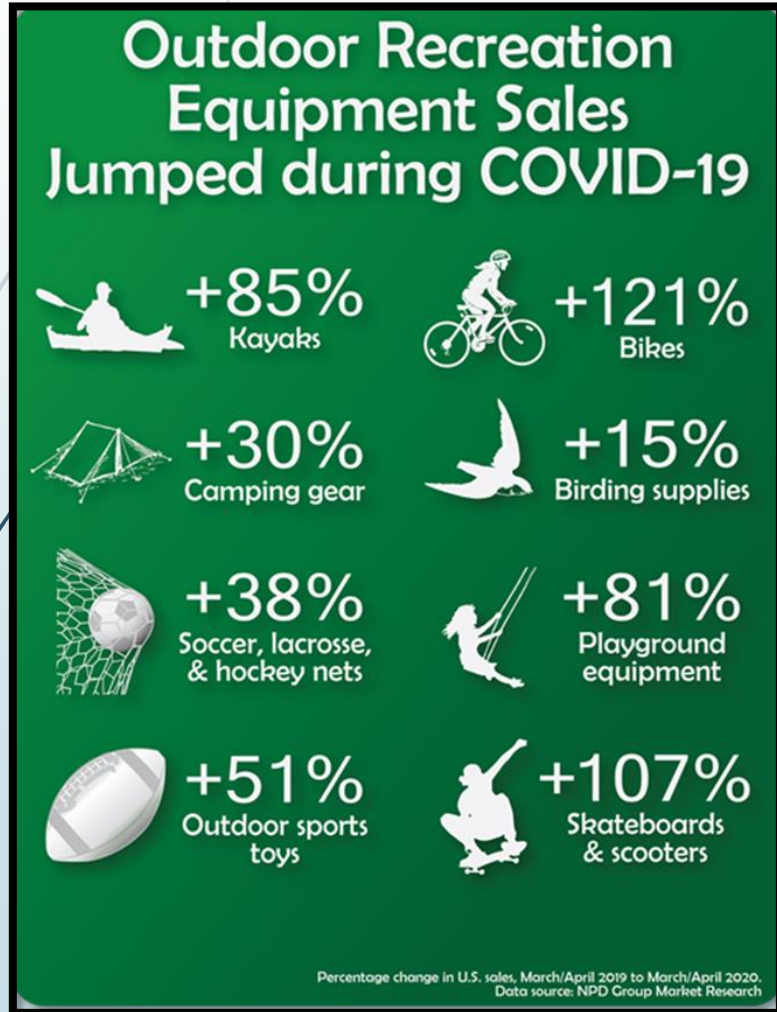


THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC'S IMPACT ON PENNSYLVANIA'S NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS:

Increased Use, Added Strain, and a Newfound Appreciation



COVID-19 Impact on Outdoor Businesses



OTHER:

- RV Sales: up >50%
- RV Rentals: up 30%
- Boat Launch Permits: up 54 percent from same time last year
- Fishing Licenses: up about 20 percent from same time last year.



Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - 2020-2024



Five years

20 Recommendations

70 actions

DCNR Grant Programs

DCNR Grants

There are a variety of grants available from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) through the Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2) to assist local entities and conservation organizations with everything from park, recreation and conservation. Our grants can fund the planning, acquisition and development of public park, recreation areas, trails and open spaces. We also support regional and statewide programs and conservation organizations whose missions aligns with ours.

Eligible applicants include municipalities, municipal agencies, non-profit organizations, state heritage areas, pre-qualified land trusts and for some programs, for-profit enterprises. Most programs require a 50% cash or non-cash matching contribution.

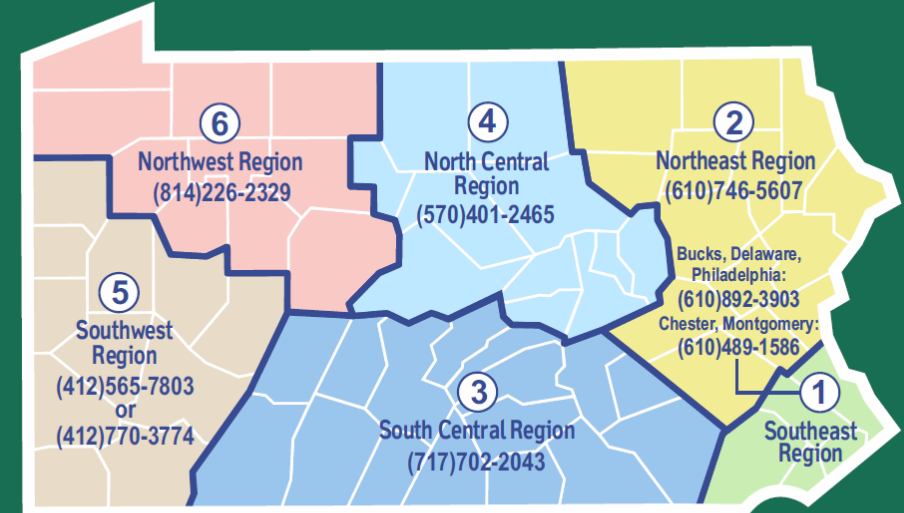
For additional information on the grants offered by DCNR or to apply for a grant, please visit www.dcnr.pa.gov.



- Community Parks & Recreation (including special funding for small communities)
- Land Acquisition
- Partnerships
- Trails
- Rivers Conservation & Riparian Buffers

How to Get Help

Contact one of DCNR's six Regional Offices.



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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Grants/Pages/default.aspx>



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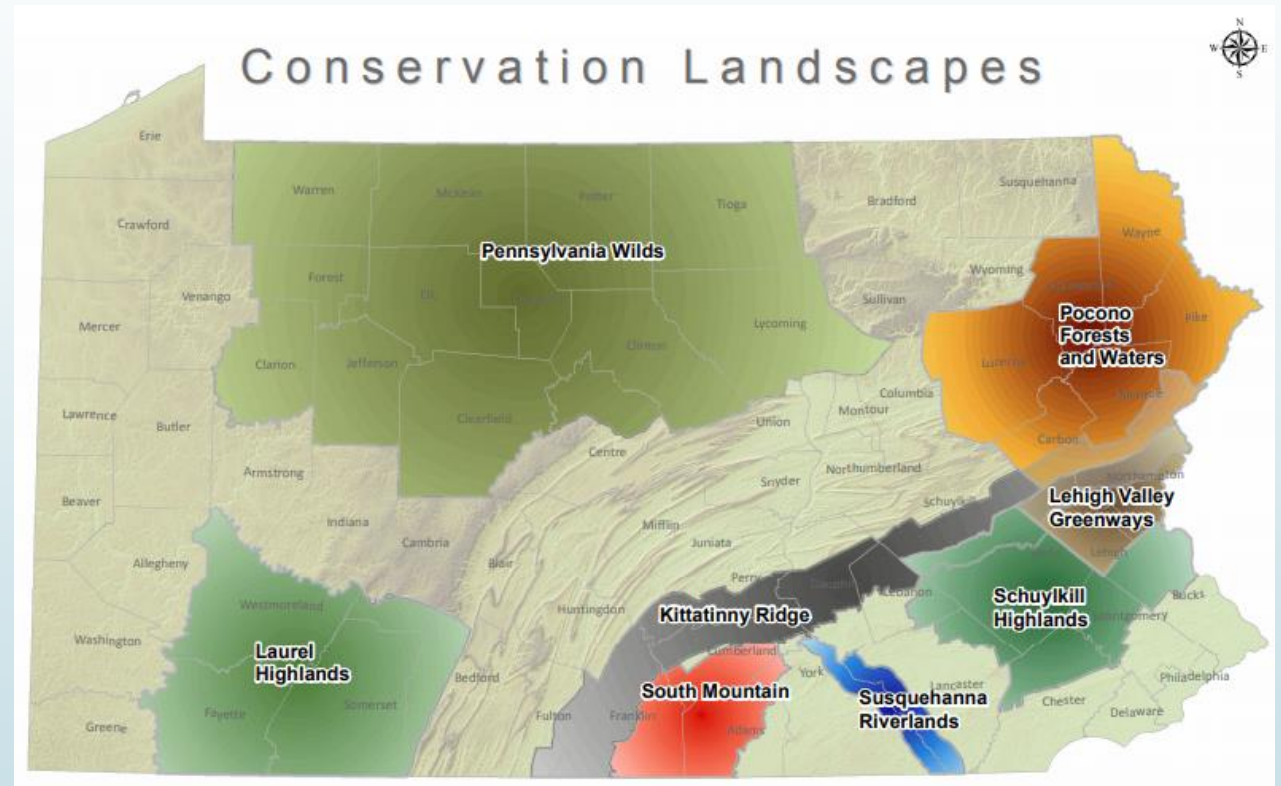
Riparian Forest Buffer Grants

- ▶ Over \$9M provided in grant funding since 2017
- ▶ Goal of planting 95,000 acres planted by 2025



PA Conservation Landscapes as a Mechanism for Economic Development

- ▶ 8 Conservation Landscapes in Pennsylvania
- ▶ Place-based approach to coordinated strategic investment and action in large landscapes, around the values of sustainability, conservation, outdoor recreation, cultural heritage and community revitalization.
- ▶ Accomplish DCNR's mission through partnerships that promote efficient, effective programs that respond to community needs and shared values and goals.



PA Heritage Areas

- ▶ 12 Heritage Areas in Pennsylvania
- ▶ The Pennsylvania Heritage Areas Program is a multi-region asset-based economic development program rooted in the commonwealth's rich natural, cultural, and industrial history.
- ▶ Heritage Areas create cross-sector partnerships that enhance a region's "sense of place" and strengthen regional economies.





Questions?