

Sustainable Community Parks

Planning for Natural Resources



Jessica Sprajcar

Natural Resource Program Specialist

PA DCNR





Creating Sustainable Community Parks

A Guide to Improving Quality of Life by Protecting Natural Resources



Prepared by the Pennsylvania
Department of
Conservation and Natural Resources

Traditional Parks



Chapman State Park



Ryerson Station SP

Sustainable Community Parks



Black Rock Sanctuary Interpretive Trail – Station 8. Year: 2003. Image Credit: Robert Folwell, Chester County Parks & Recreation.



Warwick Park – Chester County

Example - Groff's Mill Park



www.awra.org

Potential Benefits of SCPs

- Reduce crime



- Build community



- Improve health



SCP Benefits Continued...

- Attract workers and tourists



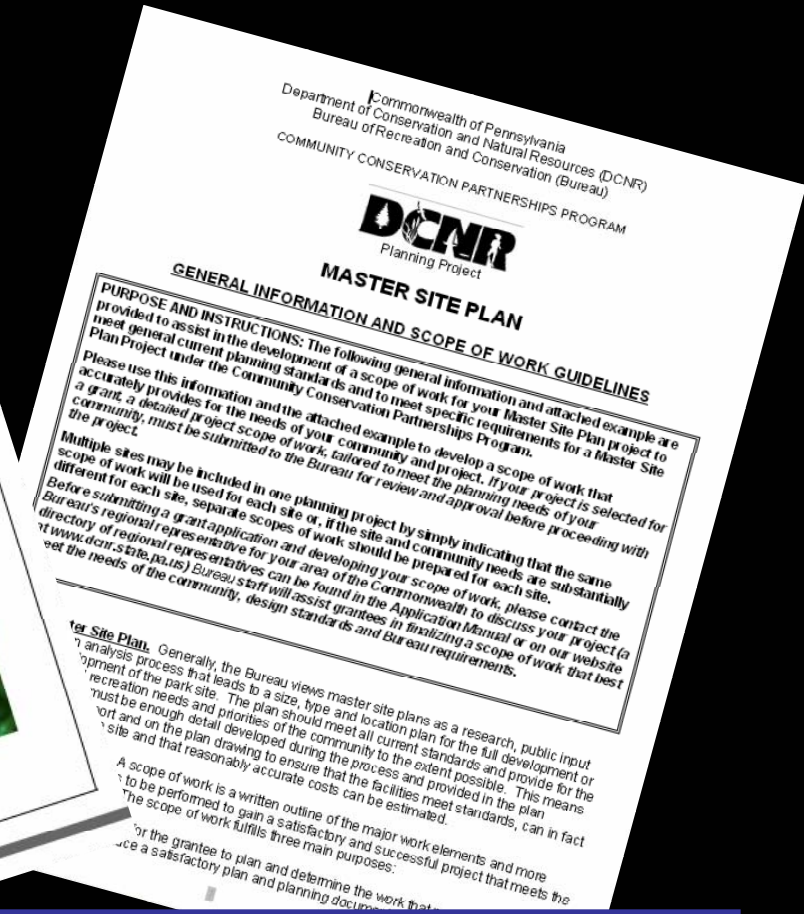
- Protect the environment



- Save money

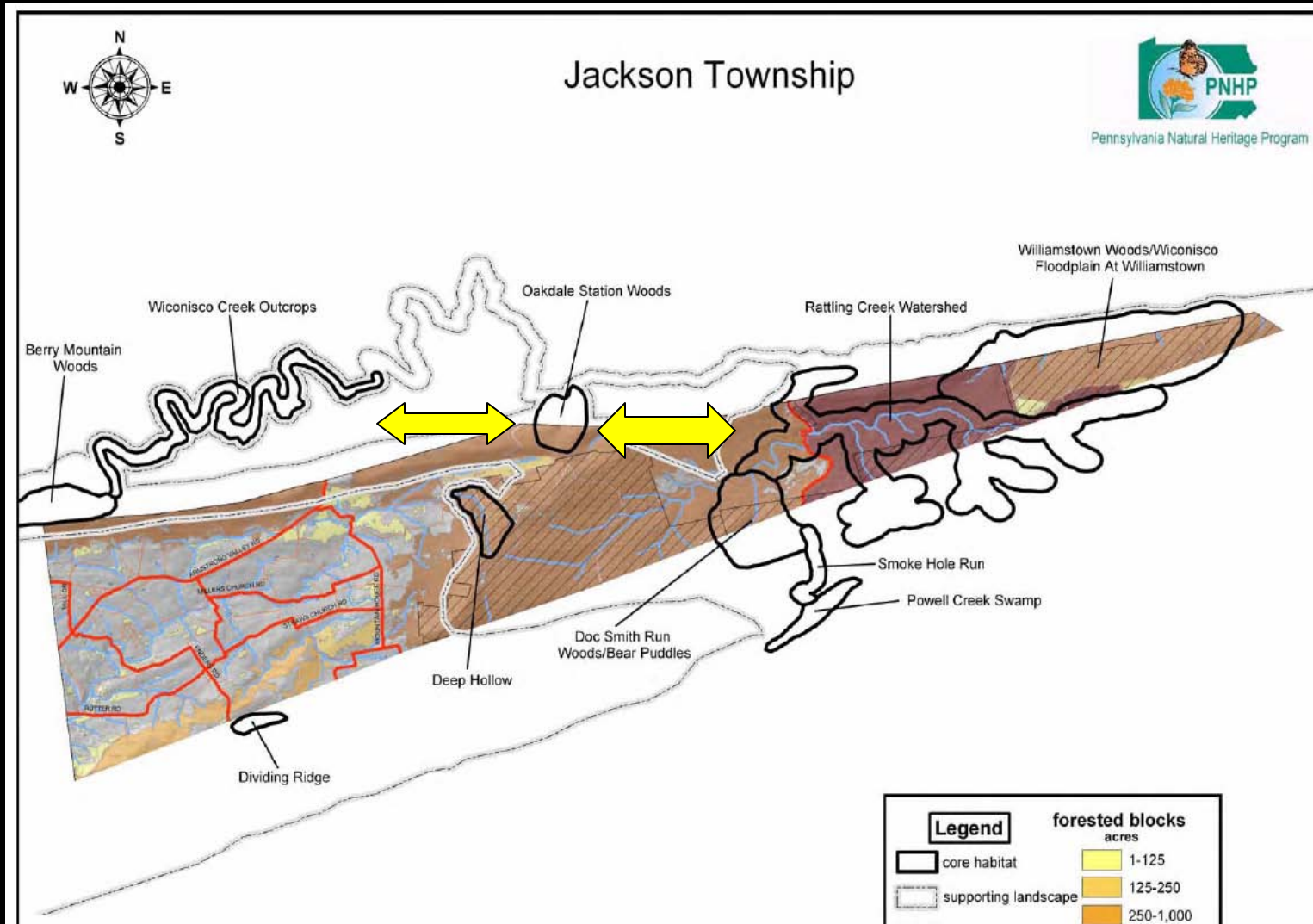


Compiling Inventories and Plans



www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us

Connect Landscapes



Minimize Impact of Facilities

- Location and Size



- Sources of Energy



- Materials



Sustainable Park Buildings



www.wikimedia.com



www.sru.edu

Ricketts Glen State Park



Olewine Nature Center



www.hmdb.org

Sustainable Sites TM

- Hydrology
- Soils
- Vegetation
- Materials
- Human Well-Being



www.sustainable sites.org





Highlights of the program:

- Carbon management inventory tool
- Suggested BMPs
- Education and outreach products

www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks



Natural Storm Water Management

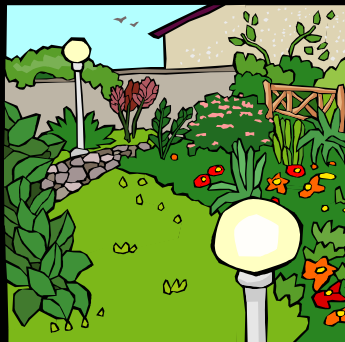


- Minimize paved surfaces

- Capture and reuse water



- Clean it naturally



Sustainable Surfaces

- Paving blocks



- Porous concrete



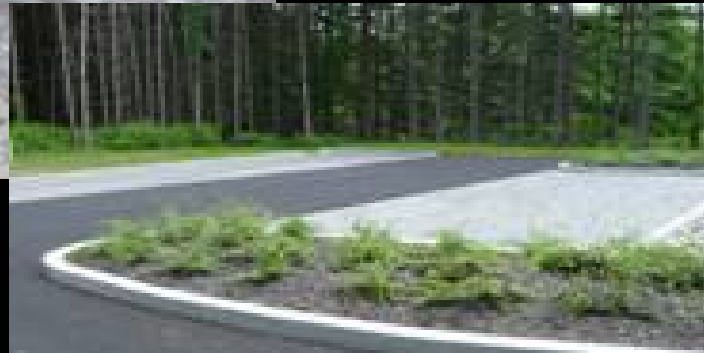
- Porous asphalt



Sustainable Parking Lots and Roads



Dauphin County Conservation District



Dauphin County Conservation District



Dauphin County Conservation District

Sustainable Playgrounds



Safeplay Systems



Landscape Structures

Rain Gardens



www.watershedactivities.com



Strasburg Park



Green Roof



Photo: Pat Pingel - DCNR



Photo: Pat Pingel - DCNR

Riparian Buffers



USDA



Melissa Halsted

Plants for Natural Stormwater Management



Paul Wray, Iowa State U, www.bugwood.org



Terry Spivey, USDA, www.bugwood.org



Aura Stauffer - DCNR



K. Owen Prusack, Chester County Parks

Emmaus Community Park



Highland Park





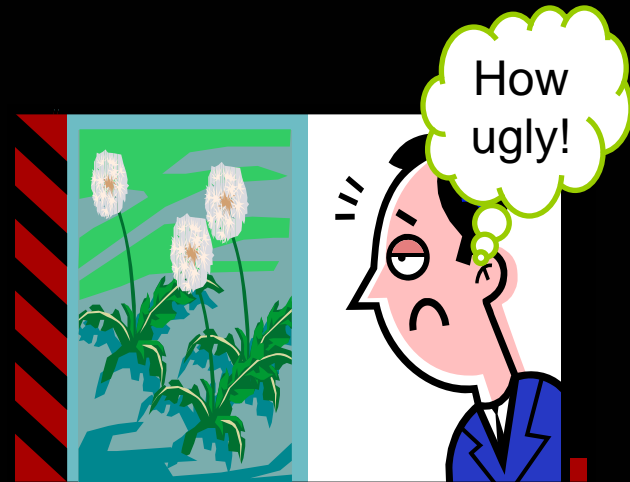


Things to Consider...



- Staffing

- Public perceptions



Example – Groff's Mill Park



Public Acceptance



Warwick County Park – Chester County, PA



Warwick County Park – Chester County, PA

Schenley Park





SCP Conferences

- **Conference #1**
 - For Lehigh Valley and surrounding area
 - October 29, 2008
 - DeSales University
- **Conference #2**
 - For south-central PA
 - Spring 2009
 - Location TBD



Any Questions?

Jessica Sprajcar

Natural Resource Program Specialist

PA Department of Conservation and

Natural Resources

717-214-7511

jsprajcar@state.pa.us

