Pennsylvania’s Outdoor Recreation & Trail Network Strategic Plans

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https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Recreation/PAOutdoorRecPlan/Pages/default.aspx

PENNSYLVANIA STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

RECREATION FOR ALL

#10 plan - 1964-2020

#3 plan - 2001-2019
release by end of 2020
Recreation Plan Vision

Enjoyable outdoor recreation is welcoming to all and accessible in every Pennsylvania community.

Trail Vision

Develop a statewide land and water trail network to facilitate recreation, transportation and healthy lifestyles.
Outdoor Recreation Plan

Five years

5 Priority Areas

20 Recommendations

70 actions

Join our Thursday morning (11-12) webinars starting October 15

2020-2021 DCNR grant requests
Trail Network Strategic Plan

7 Recommendations

1. Close Priority Trail Gaps = a trail within 10 minutes of every citizen.
2. Coordinate funding programs.
3. Cultivate a variety of partnerships.
4. More opportunities for everyone to regularly use a trail.
5. Connect communities and community assets.
6. Maintain and improve existing land and water trails.
7. Promote Pennsylvania’s trails and their benefits.

39 Actions

*Gaps
*Major Greenways
*Regional efforts
*Engaging & Welcoming
*User groups

2020 PENNSYLVANIA STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN
Over 12,000 Pennsylvanians responded....

• Lion Polls (fall 2018/spring 2019) – “Pennsylvanians”
• Online Survey (summer 2019) non-random-“8,000+ Outdoor Enthusiasts”
• Local Recreation and Park Provider Survey
• Focus Groups – Blacks & Hispanics
• Access to PA’s Outdoor Areas
• Trail Surveys

Reports posted on DCNR’s Outdoor Rec Plan webpage:  Plan Link

2020 PENNSYLVANIA STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN
Help participating in outdoor recreation....

1. **Maintenance**
   Providers should avoid creating new infrastructure until current maintenance needs are met.

   Cleanliness important

2. **Trail Use**
   Top facility mentioned
   More trails that connect different areas
   Desire for single use trails
   Need for better signage
   Expand motorized

*2019 Public Survey*
Pennsylvania’s Priority Trail Gaps

First identified in 2009

Current criteria to be considered a Priority Trail Gap includes:

- Gap is along a Major Greenway or Regionally Significant Trail
- Connects two existing segments of trail or connects an existing trail to a state park, state forest or key community
- The gap is 5 miles or less
- The trail itself has been formalized in an official planning document

Identify priority projects

Criteria was vague

2018 – Workgroup developed new criteria and process
112 Priority Trail Gaps. Represent 200 miles to be built & 62 bridge projects. (46 gaps closed since 2009)

[Map of Pennsylvania's Priority Trail Gaps]

[Website URL: http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/trailgaps/]

[Legend]
- Trails
- Open Trail Gaps
- Closed Trail Gaps

[Further Information]
Priority Trail Gaps are missing sections of trail that are less than 5 miles, are along trails that have been identified in an official planning document, and connect existing land-based trails.
Pennsylvania’s Top 10 Trail Gaps

Criteria to be elevated to a Top 10 Trail Gap:

- Will connect contiguous open miles of trails
- Require construction or rehabilitation of major infrastructure
- Have a large funding need, generally over $1,000,000
- Require interagency coordination
Outdoor Recreation Access in Pennsylvania: Pursuing a Goal of Recreation for All

Who in Pennsylvania has access to outdoor recreation within 10 minutes of their home?

More importantly, who doesn't?
Statewide

Population Served: 53%

Kids Served: 54%

Low-Income Served: 60%

Minorities Served: 75%

Lemoyne Borough (Cumberland County)

Population Served: 90.34582132564842%

Kids Served: 91.0386965376782%

Low-Income Served: 93.17995069843879%

Minorities Served: 93.23017408123792%
Pennsylvania
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