

**Potter County Comprehensive Plan –
Preserving and Enhancing the Quality of Life for Current and Future Residents of Potter County**

Chapter 9 – Historic Preservation, Tourism, and Greenways

Introduction

Potter County’s historical resources include historical buildings, historical landscapes, and locations of historical events. These resources are a portal to the past to be enjoyed and studied by current and future residents of the county. More importantly, county and local officials have recognized the importance of this history, which is evidenced by the number of organizations established to promote and protect these resources, which includes the Potter County Historical Society, the Oswayo Valley Historical Society, and the Austin Dam Memorial Association.

The presence of these various organizations, with their dedicated members, has served to preserve and protect the county’s historic resources. With the input of these organizations, the county can support many of the passive measures (i.e. ordinances, establishment of historic districts, etc.) that are available for historic resources protection. This plan addresses the need for maintaining those passive protections through measures such as preparing a historical resources inventory and map. The next step for historical preservation in the county is to add an active component to the preservation efforts, which incorporates and necessitates raising the level of awareness and increasing the participation of county residents through activities such as a community historical day or the presentation of yearly awards to residents for historic preservation activities. It is primarily through involving additional citizens in the preservation process and through actively pursuing historic preservation that further strides in historic preservation and integration of these resources into tourist destination points can be made within the county.

Identification of Historic Resources

A community’s history is contained in its historic resources. These resources may take many forms, including architecturally and historically significant buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts. A comprehensive historic preservation program begins with the identification and evaluation of historic resources. Once these resources are identified and evaluated, programs can be developed for preservation and enhancement. One tool for identifying the historical features in the county is the National Register of Historic Places. Potter has eleven (11) locations listed or eligible for the National Register. Table 9-1 lists the National Register/Eligible Properties in Potter County.

**Table 9-1
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Listed and Eligible Historic Properties in Potter County**

Municipality	Historic Name	Status	Status Date	Map Reference #
Allegany Township	Prudence Grange	Eligible	13/30/1997	1
Austin Borough	Austin Dam	Listed	01/15/1987	2
Austin Borough	EO Austin Home/Historical Society	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Austin Papermill Ruins	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Austin Borough Cemetery	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Senator Baldwin’s House	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Irene Compton House	N/A	N/A	N/A

Municipality	Historic Name	Status	Status Date	Map Reference #
Austin Borough	Ester Collins House	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Murphy House	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Tea House	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Swede Church	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Bayless House	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	McCoy House – 1 st Postmaster	N/A	N/A	N/A
Austin Borough	Tannery Row	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coudersport Borough	Coudersport and Port Allegany Freight Station	Eligible	06/11/1986	3
Coudersport Borough	Coudersport and Port Allegany Railroad Station	Listed	11/21/1976	4
Coudersport Borough	Coudersport Historic District	Listed	05/09/1985	5
Coudersport Borough	Potter County Courthouse	Listed	02/24/1975	6
Galeton Borough	Galeton Production Plant	Eligible	08/28/1996	7
Harrison Township	Swetland, C.A. Homestead	Eligible	08/21/2003	8
Keating Township	Hoxy Trail	N/A	N/A	
Stewardson Township	Cabin 15 Ca 104	Eligible	12/28/1991	9
Ulysses Township	All Saints’ Episcopal Church	Eligible	04/25/2002	10
West Branch Township	Cherry Springs Picnic Pavilion	Listed	05/11/1987	11

Source: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

The county’s historical resources are not limited to the sites identified in Table 9-1. There are nine localized sites identified by a Pennsylvania Historical Commission Marker throughout Potter County. Table 9-2 lists those sites and location.

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**Table 9-2
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Historical Markers**

Marker Name	Marker Location	Marker Text	Map #
Potter County	County Courthouse, 2 nd and East Streets, Coudersport	Formed March 26, 1804 out of Lycoming County, and fully organized in 1835. Named for Revolutionary hero, General James Potter. An early center of the lumbering and tanning industries.	A
Allegheny River	PA 49, 11 miles NE of Coudersport near Raymond	Here is the head stream of this historic river, pathway of Indians, and white traders and settlers for over 200 years. It unites with the Monongahela, 352 miles away at Pittsburgh, forming the Ohio River.	B
Austin Flood Disaster	PA 872, 2 miles N of Austin	On Sept. 30, 1911, the Bayless Pulp and Paper Co dam broke here. This concrete dam, built 1909, was nearly 534 feet long. Its failure sent torrents of water and debris down Freeman Run into Austin and Costello, causing great destruction and killing at least 78 people.	C
David Zeisberger	2 nd and Main Street at County Courthouse, Coudersport	Erected as a memorial to David Zeisberger, who encamped near this place on the night of October 8, 1767, when on his way from Bethlehem to the mouth of Tionesta Creek to visit Indians on the Allegheny River. He was the first white man to pass through the primeval forest of the upper Allegheny River.	D
David Zeisberger	PA 49, 11 miles NE of Coudersport near Raymond	Noted Moravian missionary and first white man to travel the primeval forests of this region.	E
David Zeisberger	2 nd Street, Coudersport	Noted Moravian missionary camped here on October 8, 1767 en route from Bethlehem to found missions among the Delaware Indians to the West. He was the first white man to travel the primeval forests of this region.	F
Jersey Shore Pike	US 6, 3.5 miles E of Coudersport	Lymansville was the north terminus for the early pack trail and wagon road south to Jersey Shore. In 1834 a Turnpike toll road was completed between the two points. For many years it was a major trade route.	G

Marker Name	Marker Location	Marker Text	Map #
Lymansville	Junction US 6 and Pa 872, 2 miles E of Coudersport	The pioneer settlement in this region was made here in 1808 by Major Isaac Lyman, land agent and a Revolutionary officer. The first saw and grist mill, post office, and court were located here.	H
Ole Bull's Colony	PA 44 at Cherry Springs State Park	The 11,144 acres of land within the tract acquired by a noted Norwegian violinist in 1852 were SE of here. Here were village sites, New Norway, Oleona, New Bergen, and Ole Bull's Castle.	I

Source: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

The historical resources identified in Tables 9-1 and 9-2 are graphically identified on Map 9-1.

The National Register and Historical Markers are just several tools for identifying historical features in the county. Other available resources include the local historic societies. The following historic societies are located in Potter County:

Potter County Historical Society

308 North Main St.
Coudersport, PA 16915
Hours: Open two days a week -- Mondays 1 PM - 4 PM and Fridays 1 PM - 4 PM.

E-MAIL ADDRESS -- pottercohist@adelphia.net
Potter County Historical Society Web site: <http://pottercountypa.net/history/>

Oswayo Valley Historical Society

P.O. Box 699
Shinglehouse, PA 16748
Oswayo Valley Historical Society Web site: <http://www.happeningsinthehills.com/ovhs/>

The Oswayo Valley Historical Society covers history of the Oswayo Valley. The Oswayo Valley is located in the extreme northwest section of Potter County, although the communities of Myrtle and Ceres in McKean County are also located in the valley. The Oswayo Valley stretches approximately 24-25 miles from Ceres in the northwest to Andrews Settlement in the Southeast. Andrews Settlement, Oswayo, Eleven Mile, Ceres, Chrystal, Honeoye, Coneville, Myrtle, Wildcat, Sharon Center, Clara, Shinglehouse, Sunnyside, Millport and Whitney Creek are located in the Oswayo Valley, and the Oswayo Creek and its tributaries flow through the townships of Pleasant Valley, Sharon, Clara, Oswayo, Genesee, Hebron and Allegany, in Potter County, and Ceres Township in McKean County.

The Austin Dam Memorial Association

Dottie Bajor, Secretary
133 Bittersweet Lane
Austin, Pennsylvania 16720
The Austin Dam Memorial Association Web Site: <http://happeningsinthehills.com/adma/>

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What is a Historic Resource?

Historic resources can take many forms. The National Park Service generally categorizes historic resource categories as buildings, sites, structures, objects and districts.

Building:	A house, barn, church, hotel, or similar construction created principally to shelter any form of human activity.
Site:	The location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or a structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, and where the location itself has historic, cultural or archaeological value.
Structure:	A building used for purposes other than sheltering human activity.
Object:	A form of simple construction that is primarily artistic in nature and relatively small in scale. It may be movable but is generally associated with a specific setting or environment.
District:	A significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of site, buildings, structures or objects, united historically or aesthetically by plan and physical development.

Potter County contains all of these historic resource categories.

In addition to the resource categories, historical buildings within the county have a number of different architectural styles. The buildings currently identified as significant historic resources within the county are from the 18th and 19th centuries, and are generally brick or stone, and some have been updated with modern material. Residential buildings and structures with historical value can generally be grouped into one of several architectural styles:

Vernacular:	Vernacular buildings are those designed and built without the assistance of an architect or trained designer, and whose designs are based on local cultural or social traditions. Many local farmhouses, barns and cottages typify this style. Some examples of building styles include the Penn Plan, characterized by a 2-story, 2 room rectilinear plan with the narrow end facing front and no center hall, and the German Plan, a building of 1 to 2 stories, with an almost square, usually 3 room plan, with a chimney offset from the center of the roof.
Georgian:	These buildings display a side gable or hipped roof, decorated cornice, brick chimneys at either end of the roof, decorative gable over dormer windows, multi-pane double hung sash windows, and an emphasized main entrance decorated with classical motifs.
Federal:	These buildings have a low-pitched side gable or hipped roof, paired brick chimneys at either end of the roof, decorated cornice, a flat lintel over windows, multi-pane double hung sash windows, a semi-circular window or treatment above windows, and an accentuated entranceway with classical features.
Gothic Revival:	This style includes steeply gabled roofs, a central front gable with a single window, gingerbread trim, and arched windows.
Queen Anne:	This style is ornate and eclectic, with buildings that tend to be asymmetrical in shape with a variety of detailing including turrets, towers, shingling, bay windows, and multi-gable roofs.
Colonial:	This style is typified by a blunt design with little ornamentation. The buildings are generally wood frame on a stone foundation with a clapboard exterior. Roofs are steep, generally lower on the north side, and gables stand out sharply from the structure. Windows and doors are recessed for protection from the weather and there is generally one chimney in the center of the house.
Colonial Revival:	This style is exemplified by buildings that are typically two stories in height, with the usual floor plan being rectilinear, although some examples do have an L-shaped floor plan. Popular features in this architectural style include corner pilasters, denticulated cornices and shutters.

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Legal Foundation for Historic Preservation

Many historic preservation techniques and programs are available to facilitate historic resource protection. Most techniques and programs evolved out of federal or state laws. An understanding of the legal foundation for historic preservation is helpful to determine what techniques and programs a Historic Resources Protection Plan should include.

Federal Level

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) earmarked the beginning of federal historic preservation policy. The NHPA was intended to stop the severe loss of historic resources in large cities and boroughs due to urban renewal. The legislation was intended to create a comprehensive framework for preserving historic resources through a system of reviews, regulations and incentives. The NHPA encouraged cooperation among federal, state and local governments to address historic resources protection. In Pennsylvania, the Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP), an agency of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), is the state agency responsible for overseeing this coordination.

The NHPA formalized the National Register of Historic Places, in which a number of Potter County resources are either listed or eligible for listing. The NHPA also instituted the review process, discussed below, for any project that receives federal funds. The act also authorizes the Certified Local Government Program, which enables municipalities to participate directly in federal preservation programs and to access through the state certain funds earmarked for historic preservation activities.

Section 106 Review Process

The Section 106 review process requires that any project using federal funds, which includes most PENNDOT projects, be reviewed for its impact on historic resources either listed in, or determined to be eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 does not directly prohibit alteration or destruction of these resources, but it does require a thorough investigation of other alternatives and the consideration of mitigation measures.

State Level

The NHPA authorizes the appointment of a State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to administer provisions of the act at the state level. In Pennsylvania, the agency assigned to this responsibility is the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). This entity is responsible for making initial determinations of eligibility for the National Register, managing state historic archives and administering a wide variety of historic preservation programs.

The Pennsylvania History Code pertains to conservation, preservation, protection, and management of historical and museum resources and identifies PHMC as the agency responsible for conducting these activities. It outlines Pennsylvania's legal framework for historic preservation and mandates cooperation among other state entities in identifying and protecting historic and archaeological resources.

Two Pennsylvania laws provide the legal foundation for municipalities to adopt historic preservation ordinances. These laws include Act 167 (the Historic District Act of 1961), which authorizes municipalities to create local historic districts and protect the historic and architectural character of the district through the regulation of new building, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or razing of buildings within a certified local historic district. Local districts established under this act must be certified by PHMC. This act also requires the appointment of a Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB).

The second law is Act 247 (the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC)) which authorizes the use of municipal land use controls such as use regulations, and area and bulk regulations, to protect historic resources. The MPC specifically regulates places having unique historical, architectural, or patriotic interest or value through the creation of a specific zoning classification.

County and Local Levels

At the county level, the Planning Commission can support and provide necessary technical guidance to those municipalities that desire to adopt historic preservation ordinances, and integrate the county's historic resources with other tourism initiatives. At the local level, municipalities can adopt single purpose historic preservation ordinances and establish architectural and historic review boards. Generally, historic preservation regulations are part of a zoning ordinance; however, zoning, as a land use tool, has not been adopted in the county except in Coudersport. A single purpose historic preservation ordinance would provide the same level of protection as zoning would.

Route 6

In addition to the historic resources, Route 6 traverses the county. Route 6 in Pennsylvania can be traced back to 1807 when state officials mandated a road be cut through the Moosic Mountains to enable easier travel to the western parts of the state. Carved out of hundreds of miles of wilderness, Route 6 connects all of the county seats in Pennsylvania's northern tier.

From the east, Route 6 enters the county in a relatively benign fashion; however, its importance is quickly realized as you begin to see how the highway acts as the county's spine as all the major roads eventually intersect with it, and the highway provides access to an assortment of businesses and recreational areas. The highway bisects Galeton Borough and Coudersport Borough before leaving the county as it entered.

The designation of Route 6 as a scenic byway will support local initiatives, such as the establishment of a scenic roadway overlay, to enhance and improve the visual impact of the route, and to maintain natural and historic resources along the route. The designation will also make the route eligible for

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funds from the National Scenic Byways Program and elevate the route for consideration in other funding areas such as PennDOT's Transportation Enhancements Program and programs sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Department of Community and Economic Development.

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Integrated Historic Resource/Open Space/Non-Motorized Transportation Planning

Historic resources preservation is most successful when it is integrated into the other aspects of planning that affect the municipality. For example, preservation of historic places can be directly linked to the preservation of open space, scenic roadways, and the provision of trails and bikeways. By incorporating historic resources into these other planning components, awareness of the number, type, and significance of the resources is raised within the county. The resources become part of people's everyday lives as they work, play, and enjoy the presence of the sites and structures. In essence, the resources become a living part of the community again, and not just some "old building" where resources are expended as a frill or for purely nostalgic reasons. Consequently, there is an increase in the desire to protect such resources.

Potter County is committed to preserving its historic and cultural heritage. A primary focus of this plan is to harness that community support to increase community participation in its preservation efforts. The work completed and on-going by the different historic preservation organizations in the county must be continued, and verifies the need to continue identifying historic resources and promoting the county's existing resources. This will ensure that these resources are protected for future generations to enjoy.

Preservation of the county's historical resources is important to the residents of the county. Historically significant properties and structures are located throughout the county, some of which are located in the proposed growth areas which require special attention or need to be designed into a subdivision or land development as a central feature. However, identifying the location of these sites does not protect them from demolition or inappropriate alterations. The core belief behind protecting and preserving these resources is that the past plays an important role in our lives today.

The Natural and Historic Preservation Plan shall be consistent with and may not exceed those requirements imposed under the following:

1. Clean Streams Law
2. Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act
3. The Bituminous Mine Subsidence and Land Conservation Act
4. The Coal Refuse Disposal Control Act
5. Oil and Gas Act
6. Noncoal Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act
7. Agricultural Security Act
8. An Act Protecting Agricultural Operations from Nuisance Suits and Ordinances Under Certain Circumstances
9. Nutrient Management Act

Tourism

Tourism is Pennsylvania's second largest industry -- and no wonder. With sophisticated metropolitan cities as well as thriving small towns, a wealth of fascinating peoples and cultures, and an abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities,

***If you can't export the
natural beauty of Potter
County, then we will import
the people***

Author: Unknown

Pennsylvania and Potter County are the ideal choice for your next vacation or a weekend getaway.

Potter County is part of the Northcentral Region as defined by VisitPA. Outdoor thrills, incredible mountain scenery and charming villages rich in historic culture are just a few reasons to visit Northcentral Pennsylvania. Its unsurpassed beauty and relaxed way of life make visitors feel at home. Here, you can wish upon a star in Cherry Springs State Park, Pennsylvania's first dark sky preserve, take in the thrill of a lifetime in Pine Creek Gorge - Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon, get caught up in the excitement of a Little League World Series game, or shop for quality outdoor gear at The Original Woolrich Company Store. Keystone Mountain Country has unparalleled outdoor experiences, from extreme sports to thrilling shopping adventures.

Locally, tourism in Potter County is managed through the Potter County Visitors Association (PCVA) located in Coudersport Borough. The vast recreational resources, hunting and fishing resources, historic Route 6, and quaint boroughs coupled with the natural beauty of the county position Potter County as destination point, or importer of people. It has been noted the population of Potter County can double during buck season and other seasonal activities. Tourism is an important economic development tool and plays a significant role in the daily lives of county residents.

The PCVA has been active for approximately forty years; however, the relationships between the PCVA and county businesses have not always been on solid ground. In order to successfully market Potter County as a destination, there must be a sustainable and marketable tourism product. In developing a sustainable and marketable product, the PCVA has developed a five year marketing plan that will address travelers and the local community.

The following seven goals have been identified in the marketing plan:

1. Promote stability and continuity within the organization.
2. Optimize marketing strategy.
3. Re-establish marketing efforts to seasonal residents.
4. Increase visibility through expanded marketing – nationally and internationally.
5. Rehabilitate the Lyman Lake tourist trade.
6. Preserve and enhance all aspects of stargazing at Cherry Springs State Park.
7. Integrate efforts with the Rendell-Knoll Plan for tourism.

Under each of these primary goals are a series of objectives. In order to achieve maximum visibility, this plan supports the strategies outlined in the five year market plan as prepared by the PCVA.

Key Objectives of the Market Plan

1. Increase the operating budget of the PCVA by increasing membership, local contributions, and county contribution. Every dollar raised locally is matched at a rate of .60 per dollar raised.
2. Strengthen the position of the Executive Director to reduce the turn over rate currently being experienced. Existing relationships must be strengthened and new ones developed. Instability in the Executive Director's position adversely affects those relationships and ability to maximize the state's match.
3. Increase state and national exposure through the use of newspapers and magazines.
4. Develop national and international marketing strategies.

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5. Publicize the construction and completion of the Lyman Run Dam.
6. Promote the Dark Sky Fund and stargazing packages.
7. Develop a Heritage Tourism Plan.
8. Promote the arts.
9. Preserve and promote natural resources.
10. Work with other organizations that promote tourism in the county.

Employment by Occupation

Occupation describes the kind of work a person does on the job. As revealed in Table 9-3, Potter County had 7,800 employed residents in six different occupational categories in year 2000. Of the six categories, the Service Occupation is most closely related to the recreation and accommodation industry, and had a total employment of 950 persons, which represents 12.2% of all employed persons. This ranks fourth among the six occupation categories behind Management and Professional, Production and Transportation, and Sales and Office Occupation. The nexus between the stated occupations and the top three identified in Table 9-3 can be attributed to the Manufacturing, Health Services, and Transportation industries. However, as employment shifts continue to occur in the county, local and county officials must respond to the changing climate by identifying and promoting other viable employment opportunities.

**Table 9-3
Employment by Occupation – Employed Civilian Population
16 Years of Age and Over**

Occupation	Potter County	
	2000	%
Employed Population 16 Years of Age and Over	7,800	100
Management, Professional, and related Occupations	2,055	26.3
Service Occupations	950	12.2
Sales and Office Occupations	1,666	21.4
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	238	3.1
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance Occupations	891	11.4
Production, Transportation, and Material Moving Occupations	2,000	25.6

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Employment by Industry

Information on industry relates to the kind of business conducted by a person's employing organization. The arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food service industry employed a total of 427 persons which represents 5.5% of the total employment by industry. However, to determine total employment associated with tourism in the county, the retail trade industry must be included in this analysis. Adding the retail trade industry, the total employment rises to 1,179 persons or 15% of total employed persons. As shown in Table 9-4, the Tourism industry ranks third behind the manufacturing and educational, health and social services industries.

**Table 9-4
Employment by Industry – Employed Civilian Population
16 Years Age and Over**

Industry	Potter County	
	2000	%
Employed Population 16 Years of Age and Over	7,800	100
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining	499	6.4
Construction	530	6.8
Manufacturing	1,706	21.9
Wholesale Trade	143	1.8
Retail Trade	752	9.6
Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities	452	5.8
Information	837	10.7
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing	155	2.0
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management	219	2.8
Educational, Health, and Social Services	1,432	18.4
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Service	427	5.5
Other Service (Except Public Administration)	324	4.2
Public Administration	324	4.2

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

BicyclePA's Corridors – Route Y

In addition to serving as a major east/west vehicle transportation corridor in Pennsylvania, Route 6 is also a key corridor in the state's BicyclePA's proposed long distance touring routes, which combine on-road sections with off-road paths. In total, there are six long-distance touring routes identified in the state, including two east-west, border to border routes totaling more than 700 miles, one of which is Route Y, better known as Route 6.

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Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping Activities in Pennsylvania

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania authored a Technical Report titled Economic Values and Impacts of Sport Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Activities in Pennsylvania, which studied the economic impacts and values of hunting, fishing, and trapping activities in Pennsylvania. The following section includes excerpts from that study that was prepared by Dr. E.L. Dick Shafer, professor of Environmental Management at the Pennsylvania State University.

The researchers found that hunters, anglers, and furtakers created a \$9.6 billion dollar impact from participating in these activities. The study also showed that another economic benefit associated with these activities was employment, which totaled more than 88,000 jobs, and that participants placed a high value on their sport. In most cases, the value they placed on their activities was much higher than what they actually paid to participate. In 1996, the sale of 1.1 million hunting license generated revenues of \$16.7 million dollars, which was 1.3% of the overall \$1.33 billion that hunters spent on hunting trips. Similarly, the sale of 976,000 fishing licenses totaled \$19.9 million dollars, which was just 1.5% of the \$1.26 billion dollars anglers spent on fishing trips. Interestingly, the study found that the economic values that sporting enthusiasts placed on wildlife watching activities away from home was \$860 million dollars, while the total expenditures of these enthusiasts to participate in wildlife watching away from home was \$290 million dollars.

State owned land was used more often for hunting and fishing than private, posted or non-posted lands or federal land, while private, non-posted land was more often used for furtaking activities. This is an important finding since Potter County is composed of more than 50% of public lands and is home to some of the most pristine waterways and natural areas. This study supports the fact the natural resources in Potter County have the staying power to continuously attract such enthusiasts who help drive the local economy through the creation of small businesses and jobs.

County Tourism Resources

The county's natural beauty, coupled with its high quality natural resources, public lands, trails, close proximity to the major population centers of the northeast, quaint boroughs, historic resources, Route 6, and many more tourist driven attractions solidifies Potter County's position as a destination point. The following tables represent the resources that contribute to county's tourism base and recognition of a destination point:

Activities near the Susquehannock State Forest

Hiking and Camping

Hiking is available on many trails in the Susquehannock State Forest, though the main trail is the Susquehannock Trail System, an 85-mile loop through the forested hills and valleys of the region. It was created by joining together a number of old and new foot trails, logging roads and abandoned railroad grades. The trail originates at the district office along Route 6 in Potter County and extends south into Clinton County. The route is well-marked with rectangular orange blazes and is mostly comfortable walking with a few steep grades.

Fishing and Boating

Trout fishing is popular in several streams in the forest. Kettle Creek has a fly fishing only area, while one of its tributaries, Cross Fork Creek, has a wild trout fishery. Hammersley Fork provides trout fishing in a secluded area.

Hunting

Hunting for deer, bear, turkey, grouse, squirrels, rabbits and ducks is a popular use of the forest during designated seasons. Other than a few safety zones around buildings, hunting is permitted throughout the state forest. Four thousand acres are open to hunting by disabled hunters on ATVs with special permits.

Sightseeing

Within Susquehannock State Forest are 180 miles of roads for enjoying the forested scenery. Deer, turkey, hawks, grouse, raccoons and porcupines are frequently observed while traveling the forest roads, and bear, bobcat, and elk sightings are becoming more frequent as their numbers increase. Sixteen vistas provide magnificent views of the forest, particularly during fall foliage time.

Winter activities

Susquehannock State Forest offers 29.5 miles of cross-country ski trails. Many foot trails, gated timber sale roads and old railroad grades also are used by cross-country skiers and snowshoe enthusiasts. Over 200 miles of snowmobile trails are located on Susquehannock State Forest, all of which are found on the North Central Snowmobile Trails Map, available at the district office.

All-terrain vehicle riding

During the summer months, a 43-mile-ATV trail is available within Susquehannock State Forest. The trail passes through Lyman Run State Park, where parking and sanitary facilities are located. A loading dock, as well as sanitary facilities and picnic tables, can be found adjacent to the forest district office.

Mountain biking

Mountain biking is permitted on state forest roads, timber sale roads and a trail that originates at the district office.

Horseback riding

Horses are allowed on all the state forest roads, timber sale roads and roads along pipelines. There are no trails designated for horseback riding.

Other special opportunities

The Pennsylvania Lumber Heritage Museum, operated by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, is located along U.S. Route 6, approximately 10 miles west of Galeton. The museum, boasting a full-size logging camp and sawmill, provides an excellent display of logging practices from 1870 to 1930.

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**Table 9-5
State Parks and Forest Areas**

Name	Resources	Map #
Lyman Run State Park	Public Camping, Swimming, All Terrain Vehicle Trail Head, Hiking, Snowmobile Trail Head, Small Fishing Boats and Canoes	1
Cherry Spring State Park	Public Camping, Snowmobile Trail Head, Stargazing	2
Patterson State Park	Tent Camping, Mountain Bike Trailhead, Cross Country Skiing Trail Head, Hiking	3
Prouty Place State Park	Hiking	4
Denton Hill State Park	Mountain Bike Trailhead, Skiing, All Terrain Vehicle Trail, Mountain Bike Trailhead, Snowmobile Trail Head, State Forest District Office	5
Ole Bull State Park	Snowmobile Trail Head, Cabin Rental, Cross Country Skiing Trail Head, Public Camping, Hiking, Swimming, Small Fishing Boats and Canoes, Birding Site	6
Sizerville State Park	Swimming, Hiking, Public Camping, Cross Country Skiing Trail Head, Snowmobile Trail Head	7

Source: Pennsylvania Outdoors Discovery Map

5 year improvement plans for Cherry Springs, Denton Hill, Lyman Run, and Patterson Park.

**Table 9-6
Five Year Improvement Plans for State Parks in Potter County**

Park	Project	Priority	Cost	Market
Cherry Springs	Full time environmental education specialist	High	\$27,500	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Develop content appropriate to amateur astronomy/skywatching market for virtual interpretive center	High	\$20,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Install deck-mounted observatory dome to enable winter viewing	High	\$100,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Polaris-15 observatory dome fixed to the roof or side of visitor center	Medium	\$150,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Complete upgrade to stand alone restroom building	High	\$300,000	Astronomy

Cherry Springs	Harden driving routes in observation fields	High	\$40,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Construct five to ten concrete telescope pads	High	\$100,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Purchase telescope and accessories for use by state park interpretive staff	High	\$10,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Campground restrooms and shower house	Low	\$400,000	Astronomy
Cherry Springs	Develop web-based virtual interpretive center for PA Wilds Nights	High	\$100,000	Passive Recreation
Cherry Springs	Full time environmental education specialist	High	\$27,500	Passive Recreation
Cherry Springs	Design and construct a new visitor center on the west side Rote 44 along the northern boundary of the park	Medium	\$500,000	Passive Recreation
Cherry Springs	Complete construction of new amphitheater	Medium	\$100,000	Passive Recreation
Cherry Springs	Develop opportunities for utilizing key interpretive messages from the Lumber Heritage Region and U.S. Route 6 Heritage Corridor	Medium	\$5,000	Passive Recreation
Cherry Springs	Three-sided kiosk to educate and inform visitors as to dark sky viewing etiquette	Medium	\$25,000	Passive Recreation
Cherry Springs	Develop additional lodging capacity (Cabins)	Low	\$100,000	Passive Recreation

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Park	Project	Priority	Estimated Cost
Denton Hill	Ski Lodge HVAC - Replace System	1	\$50,000
Denton Hill	Road Rehab	2	\$15,000
Denton Hill	Lodge Rehab, Access, Siding, Windows	3	\$1,000,000
Denton Hill	Resources Management	98	\$26,400
Denton Hill	Resources Inventory Information	98	\$26,400
Denton Hill	Dayuse Areas Restoration	98	\$280,000
Denton Hill	Rehab Sewerage plant	98 2004	\$550,000
Denton Hill	Replace Main Park Road/Parking/Cabin access	98 2004	\$400,000
Project Count: 8			Total: \$2,837,400

Park	Project	Priority	Estimated Cost
Lyman Run	Spillway Bridge Abutments	0 2004	\$183,000
Lyman Run	Boat Docks (2) - Replace Concession & Rehab Docks	1	\$12,000
Lyman Run	Park Trail - Rehab Surface Drainage	2	\$5,000
Lyman Run	Pavilion Landscape - Fill, Topsoil, Seed, Drainage	3	\$5,000
Lyman Run	Resurface Paved & Gravel Roads - Parking (FDC-115-3032)	K4 2004	\$30,000

Lyman Run	Replace Playground	5	\$25,000
Lyman Run	Resources Inventory Information	98	\$16,000
Lyman Run	Replace Pit Latrines (Design Needed) (FDC-115-812) (Showers and Flush Toilets)	B 98 2006	\$900,000
Lyman Run	Dayuse Areas Restoration	98	\$20,000
Lyman Run	Resources Management	98	\$33,000
Lyman Run	Lake Dredging	98	\$169,000
Lyman Run	Campground Restoration / Add Electric	98	\$175,000
Lyman Run	Cabins	99	\$0
Lyman Run	Add Three Cottages & 2 YURTS	99	\$80,000
Lyman Run	Add 10 modern cabins	99	\$1,250,000
Lyman Run	Yurts	99	\$0
Lyman Run	Camping Cottage	99	\$0
Project Count: 17			Total: \$2,903,000

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Park	Project	Priority	Estimated Cost
Patterson	Park Road - Resurface, Drainage	1 2004	\$4,000
Patterson	Pavilion Rehab	2	\$10,000
Patterson	Replace Unisex Restroom (FDC-154-3039)	3	\$100,000
Patterson	Resources Management	98	\$1,000
Patterson	Resources Inventory Information	98	\$1,200
Patterson	Dayuse Areas Restoration	98	\$10,000
Patterson	Campground Restoration	98	\$37,000
Project Count: 7			Total: \$163,200

Trails

Potter County is home to numerous hiking trails including the Susquehannock Trail System, Bucktail Path, Donut Hole, Black Forest Trail, and the North and South Link Trails. Although these trails are the better known ones, other smaller trails such as the Assembly Park Nature Trail in Shinglehouse Borough, the Lyman Run Trail in Lyman Run State Park, and the Walking Trail of a Lumber Town in Galeton Borough are easily accessible to local residents. In addition to the aforementioned trail systems, smaller trails extend off of the main ones providing added adventure and difficulty. A map of the trail system can be obtained from the Pennsylvania State Bureau of Forestry Potter County Office. The following is a listing of the major trail in the county along with a brief description.

The Susquehannock Trail System

The Susquehannock Trail System is an 84 mile loop trail almost entirely in Potter County, although it snakes in and out of the Clinton County border three times between miles 44 and 49 at Cross Fork. Most of the trail was constructed in the early 1970s by joining old railroad grades and logging roads. The well-maintained, orange-blazed trail begins behind the DCNR forestry building on Denton Hill along Route 6.

Interesting and sometimes notorious sections of the trail include Cardiac Hill, Hogback Hollow, Spook Hollow, and the infamously steep Morgan Hollow. The trail passes through the Ole Bull State Park and Cross Fork, where water, restroom, and shower facilities are available. The Cherry Springs Fire Tower

site and Patterson State Park are among many good camp sites along the trail. A February Winter Frolic, summer Camporee at Ole Bull State Park, and fall harvest dinner are highlights.

The Bucktail Path

The Bucktail Path is a linear trail connecting Sinnemahoning and Sizerville State Parks in Elk State Forest. From Sinnemahoning at the southern terminus, the hiker can connect to the Quehanna and Donut Hole Trails. Although the Bucktail Path is primarily in Clinton County, it wanders briefly across the border into Portage Township in Potter County's southwestern corner near the terminus at Clinton County's Sizerville on Route 155.

The Donut Hole Trail

The Donut Hole Trail (DHT) was originally a 42.7 mile linear trail from Kettle Creek State Park to Hyner Run State Park, but a western extension of 15.4 miles from Kettle Creek SP to Jericho and a southern extension of 31.6 miles from Hyner Run SP to Farrandsville extends the total course to 89.7 miles.

Most of the trail is in Clinton County, but the DHT is contiguous with the Susquehannock Trail System for 8.7 miles, snaking in and out of Potter County twice. The trail was originally blazed in red, but all new blazing is orange.

Black Forest Trial

The Black Forest Trail is a 42.2 mile loop primarily in the northwest corner of Lycoming County near the Village of Slate Run. About 3.5 miles of the trial wind into the southeastern corner of Potter County in the vicinity of the Potter-Clinton-Lycoming borders.

North and South Link Trails

The North and South Link Trails are designed to create at 25.6 mile circuit hike joining the Susquehannock Trail (STS) and the Black Forest Trail (BFT). The circuit is comprised of 2.3 miles on the Susquehannock Trail, 9.3 miles on the North Link Trail, 8 miles on the Black Forest Trail, and 6 miles on the South Link Trail. The two Link Trails are blazed in blue, while the STS and BFT are blazed in orange.

**Table 9-7
Trails**

Name	Length
Susquehannock Trail	85 miles
Bucktail Trail	33 miles
Donut Hole Trail	89 Miles
Black Forest Trail	42 miles
North and South Link Trails	26 Miles

Source: Pennsylvania Outdoors Discovery Map

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**Table 9-8
Ruins and Museums**

Name	Resources	Map #
Austin Dam Ruins	Historic Site	8
Pennsylvania Lumber Heritage Museum	Heritage Museum	9
Coudersport Borough	Historic District	10
Potter County	Underground Railroad	N/A

Source: Pennsylvania Outdoors Discovery Map

This is a picture of the Austin Dam as it sits today in ruins. In March of 1992, the Austin Dam Memorial Association (ADMA), Inc. was officially incorporated as a non profit organization. The ADMA is organized under Federal 501C3 and is registered with the PA Dept. of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Currently the ADMA is working with the PA Fish Commission on the Adopt-A-Stream project for stream improvement.



Today, Austin is less populated, although many visitors come to enjoy the beauty of the countryside, hunt, fish, snowmobile, and pursue other recreational opportunities. Many also visit the Austin Dam Ruins in awe of the terrible loss of lives and widespread destruction that it caused on September 30th, 1911.

Coudersport Borough is also known for being a refuge area taken by fugitive slaves, along the "Underground Railroad." The "Stations" on this road, so far as known, were the store of John S. Mann in Coudersport, the farm of Nelson Clark two miles north of Coudersport, the home of Sala Stevens in Clara Township, the home of Rodney Nichols at Millport, and the John King homestead in Ceres, PA. From that point they were guided or assisted across the border into Canada.

Table 9-8 lists annual and special events occurring in the county. The Potter County Visitors Bureau maintains a detailed list of activities, including dates and locations. For detailed information on the events listed in Table 9-8 and other special events, please visit the Potter County Visitors Association located in Coudersport Borough, or visit their web site at: www.visitpottercounty.com

The Pennsylvania Heritage Lumber Museum – Source: DCNR

The Pennsylvania Heritage Lumber Museum is a treasure tucked away in the county. You should plan to spend several hours there to immerse yourself in the mindset and technology with which the Pennsylvania old-growth forests were faced by a young, energetic nation eager for raw materials for growth. Not a single thought was given to the long-term consequences of what was being done, in strong contrast to today's "sustainable forestry." Celebrated are the feats from which the Paul Bunyan legends grew. The tales are told of both the early cutting of the forest and the work done by thousands of out-of-work men brought here for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). This latter story is largely forgotten, unknown by today's citizens who haven't faced such dire and widespread economic collapse as that of the Great Depression. The CCC taught young men discipline and returned a cadre of men

prepared to accept the responsibilities of war time service in World War II. It's an inspiring tale, very well told here. Also available are full-size working examples of the tools and technologies used in extracting the timber from the woods, a fascinating story of engineering improvisation, skill, and sheer brawn. More than 3,000 artifacts and objects - from everyday tools to a Shay-gearred logging locomotive and a Barnhart log loader are displayed. A new gallery exhibit and walking tour will explain that through scientific management, sustained production of pulpwood, timber, veneer, poles, and other products is possible from our working forests. Nearby the Susquehannock Trail winds through 85 miles of Appalachian mountain wilderness.

The museum has been so successful in attracting visitors and representing the history and heritage of the region, that it is proposing a 10,000 sq. ft. expansion of the facility at a cost of four million dollars.

Annual and Special Events

Potter County, like most counties, has an abundance of annual and special events not only for the residents of the county but also tourist. In total, there are twenty-seven annual and special events identified in the county. These events are held year round and are typically related to the season in which it is conducted. Table 9-8 lists those events; however, it should not be considered inclusive. For more information on these events, please contact the Potter County Visitors Association.

**Table 9-9
Annual/Special Events**

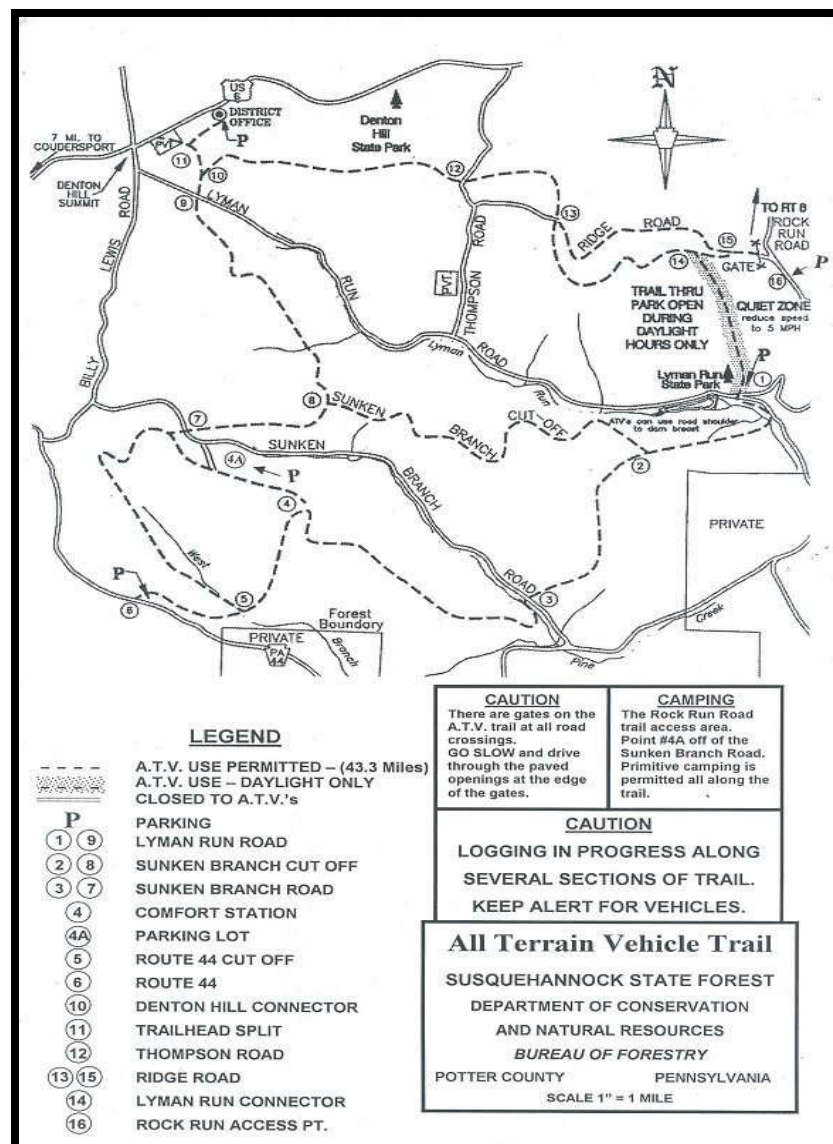
Name	Season
Maple Syrup Makin' On the Courthouse Square	Spring
Farm and Craft Market	Spring
The Potter-Tioga Maple Festival	Spring
God's Country Marathon	Summer
Ulysses All Day Sidewalk/Yard Sale and Strawberry Festival	Summer
Cross Fork Snake Hunt and Fireman's Field Day	Summer
Galeton Annual Red Suspender Weekend	Summer
St. Bibiana's July 4 th Parish Festival	Summer
Galeton Famous Fireworks	Summer
Oswayo Valley Lions Club Country Festival	Summer
The Bark Peelers Convention	Summer
The Eastern Traditional Archery Festival	Summer
Annual Woodsman Show	Summer
Ole Bull Midnight Madness Mountain Bike Race	Summer
Annual Potter County Festival	Summer
Town Wide Yard Sale, Hospice Sale and Merchant Sidewalk Sales	Summer
Genesee Old Home Days	Summer
Ulysses Fall Festival	Fall
Annual Snowmobile and ATV Show	Fall
Falling Leaves Festival	Fall

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Name	Season
Fall Moonlight Madness	Fall
Yesteryear Collectible Show	Fall
Cherry Spring Star Party	Fall
Annual Galeton Car Show	Fall
Victorian Christmas	Winter
Annual Snowdeo	Winter
Winter Festival	Winter

Source: Potter County Visitors Association
Note – This list is not all inclusive of all activities in the county



**Table 9-10
Driving Tours**

Name	Location
Farmland Tour	The Farmland Tour is primarily through the farming sections of Potter County. Here some of the best dairy herds in the state may be seen, and potatoes are disease free and keep well.
The "Dam" Tour	The "Dam" tour is the shortest of the three tours and takes you to the Austin Dam Ruins.
The State Park Tour	The State Parks Tour traverses mostly state owned land and goes through some of the most beautiful parts of the county.

Source: Potter County Visitors Association

Potter County Farmers' Markets

Locally grown produce is not only delicious but fresh, nutritious, and readily available across the state and county. Agri-tourism is a viable component of the county's tourism plan that includes historic sites, special events, recreation, and eco-tourism. The Farmland Driving Tour should be closely tied to the location of the Farmers Market in the county.

**Table 9-11
Farmers' Market**

Name	Location	Produce	Dates
Mitchell's Twin Valley Market	175 Mitchell Road, Galeton	Fruit, Vegetables, Eggs, Plants, Nursery Stock, Jam, Jelly, Preserves, Pumpkins, Potatoes, Flowers, Maple Syrup	April – December
Potter County Farmers' Market	Main Street, Route 6, Coudersport	Fruit and Vegetables	May- November
Prouty Trout Farm	971 Prouty Road, Austin	Fishing and Dressed Fish	April – October
Raven Hill and Mountain Meadows	421 Raven Hill Road, Roulette	Tours, Lamb, Wool, Goat, Sheepskin	Year Round
Thompson Farms	1020 Dingman Road, Coudersport	Fruit, Vegetables, Meats, Eggs, Nursery Stock, Flowers, Organic	Year Round
Thorny Bush Farm	RD 1, Box 94B, Coudersport - Courthouse Square	Herbs, Baked Goods, Plants, Gifts/Crafts, Honey, Candy, Goats	June – October

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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The Potter County Snowmobile Club is located on North Hollow Road and maintains a clubhouse open to the public. They host a “Snowdeo” each January. The Southern Potter County Snowmobile Club is based on the Austin area. Snowmobile enthusiasts have access to approximately 234 miles of groomed trails in the county.

**Table 9-12
Snowmobile Trails in Potter County**

County	Trail Distance	Contact Agency
Potter County, Cameron County	2 Mi. TH (82 Mi.)	<u>Sizerville State Park</u> RR 1, Box 238-A Emporium - 15834
Potter County	1,200 Acres	<u>Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission</u> Box 187 Lamar - 16848
Potter County	220 Mi.	<u>Susquehannock State Forest</u> PO Box 673 Coudersport - 16915
Potter County	4 Mi.	State Game Land #204 PGC Northcentral Region Box 5038 Jersey Shore - 17740
Potter County	3 Mi.	State Game Land #64 PGC Northcentral Region Box 5038 Jersey Shore - 17740
Potter County	4 Mi. TH (500 Mi.)	<u>Lyman Run State Park</u> RR 1, Box 136 Galeton - 16922
Potter County	1 Mi. TH (55 Mi.)	<u>Ole Bull State Park</u> HCR 62, Box 9 Cross Fork - 17729
Potter County	TH (60 Mi.)	Shinglehouse Trail P.O. Box 692 Shinglehouse - 16748
Mileage (Mi.)	Acreage (A.)	Trail Head (TH)

Scenic Resources

As part of the county’s goal to diversify its economic base, tourism will play an important role in the diversification. Tourism comes in many forms, including historic facilities, districts, agriculture, ecotourism, and natural resources. As part of the overall tourism plan, scenic vistas and unique geological sites cannot be overlooked. The following sites were identified from the Pennsylvania Geological Survey Publication *Outstanding Scenic Geological Features of Pennsylvania* and are identified on Map 9-1.

**Table 9-13
Scenic Resources**

Resource	Map Location	Location	Remarks
Cherry Spring Vista	1	Along PA Route 44, 1 mile southeast of Cherry Springs Park	A scenic view of small tributary streams and gorges in higher elevations of the plateau in north-central Pennsylvania. The High Plateau is very dissected and little land surface remains on the flat tops.
Boone Vista	2	Junction Road, south of Boone Road	
Rock Run Vista	3	Rock Hill Road	
Horton Run Vista	4	Horton Run Road	
Jamison Run Vista	5	Jamison Run Road	
Headwaters - Allegany River, Pine Creek, and Genesee River	6	Route 49 - Alleghany and Ulysses Townships	
Losey Vista	7	Rock Run Road	
Lyman Run Vista	8	Rock Run Road	
Longtoe Vista	9	SR 44	
Water Tank Vista	10	SR 44	
Welch Ridge Vista	11	Randall Road	
Pine Mountain Vista	12	SR 44	
Ole Bull Vista	13	Spring Brook Road	
Little Lyman Vista	14	Horton Road	
Hammersley Vista	15	McConnell Road	
Salt Run Vista	16	Ridge Road	
Bell Branch #1 Vista	17	Trout Run Road	
Bell Branch #2 Vista	18	Trout Run Road	

All of the identified resources are unique; however, when combined into a single plan and marketed as unique resources built upon a well planned system of accommodations, restaurants, recreation areas, planned stops, maps, regional attractions, and cultural and heritage stops, Potter County can become a net importer of people and a destination point for people living within the larger metropolitan areas of Pennsylvania and the northeast United States.

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Greenways

Potter County is blessed with many amenities including small towns, scenic vistas and rivers, and public lands interlaced with trails to name a few. As the county continues to define itself as a destination point for eco-tourism, activities that draw people to the county, such as hunting, snowmobiling, hiking, camping, specialty shopping, and fishing all contribute to tourism and ultimately the strengthening of the county's local economy. Since greenways are an integral component of the county's tourism draw, the discussion and identification of greenway connections is discussed in this chapter.

The Pennsylvania Greenway Partnership defines a greenway as follows:

A greenway is a corridor of open space that can vary greatly in scale, from narrow ribbons of green that run through urban, suburban, and rural areas to wide corridors that incorporate diverse natural, cultural, and scenic features. Greenways can be land or water based, running along stream corridors, shorelines, or wetlands. Some follow old railways, canals, ridge tops, or other features. They can incorporate both public and private property. Some greenways are primarily recreational corridors, while others function almost exclusively for environmental protection and are not designed for human passage. Greenways differ in their location and function, but overall, a greenway network will protect natural, cultural, and scenic resources, provide recreational benefits, enhance the natural beauty and the quality of life in neighborhoods and communities, and stimulate economic development opportunities.

As identified in this chapter, the county has a historic past, including many historic sites. In addition, there are six state parks, four identified trails, the Austin Dam ruins, three driving tours, farmer's markets, scenic vistas, and annual/special events. Greenways can be incorporated into and/or connect this unique system of special features together with each other or the boroughs of the county.

The connectivity function is the defining characteristic of greenways. Types of greenways include conservation greenways, recreational greenways, riparian buffers, landscape corridors, greenbelts, and natural areas.

The conservation greenway exists primarily for the value of its ecological functions. As conservation land, it provides habitat for wildlife. An example of a conservation greenway is one that is located along a stream corridor that provides food, shelter, and cover to numerous species.

Recreational greenways are created primarily for informal, low impact recreation. Recreational use by residents and tourists may take place over the land or along a river enclosed by a riparian buffer greenway. Most recreational use of greenways occurs on trail, but hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and enjoyment of cultural and historic sites in greenways are additional examples of use.

A riparian buffer is a conservation greenway along a river or creek that traps sediment and nutrients, shades and cools the water, protects the banks from erosion, and provides for wildlife movement and habitat.

Landscape corridors are tracts, even within conservation lands, that are managed to maximize greenway values. For example, in the Allegheny National Forest, internal greenways are managed to

assure that pockets of old growth timber are connected to other similar habitat areas by a band of mature forest.

Greenbelts are interconnected conservation tracts and corridors that wrap around a community forming greenbelts that can be used as pedestrian or bike paths, for example.

Natural areas are greenspaces or greenways with mature observation or environmental education functions.

Existing Greenways

Potter County has an abundance of natural areas and trails; however, the county does not have a designated greenway. The closest greenways accessible to county residents include the Donut Hole Trail and Pine Creek Trail. The Donut Hole Trail is located in Clinton County and skirts the southern boundary of Potter County. The Pine Creek Trail is located in Tioga and Lycoming Counties.

Benefits of Greenways and Trails

Greenways and trails offer numerous direct and indirect benefits, including recreation value and health benefits, pollution mitigation and flood management, transportation enhancement and safety benefits, economic benefits, and historic preservation.

The recreational value of greenways and trails is often their foremost attraction. In addition to the entertainment value of recreation, there is a significant health and fitness benefit as most recreational activities pursued on trails involve exercise.

Greenways play a role in pollution mitigation. Some forms of pollution mitigated by green infrastructure include noise, water, thermal, and air pollution. Floodplains and wetlands protected by greenways provide a flood mitigation benefit as well as reducing stormwater damage and recharging aquifers.

Serving as transportation corridors, trails encourage pedestrian and bicycle commuting as an alternative to automobile commuting, thus reducing traffic and congestion on roads, and reducing fuel consumption and associated pollution.

Recreational, educational, historical and cultural sites, nature centers, museums, and trails attract tourists. This brings a direct economic benefit to local restaurants and hotels and other service related businesses as tourists spend dollars on food, lodging, and other consumer goods.

Greenways can be important to historic preservation and can protect a scenic view or landscape tourists see from a prominent overlook or roadway.

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Proposed Greenways

1. **Pine Creek** – From Galeton Borough to Tioga County, then eventually to the Pine Creek Trail. Galeton Borough is a greenway node along the trail. In addition to Galeton Borough, there are numerous villages that provide accommodations along the creek in Tioga County.
2. **Cherry Springs State Park and Lyman Run State Park** – Beginning in Galeton Borough, this trail would be an extension of the Pine Creek Greenway. It would connect Galeton Borough with Lyman Run State Park and Cherry Springs State Park. Greenway Nodes along the trails include Galeton Borough, Lyman Run State Park, and Cherry Springs State Park. From Cherry Springs State Park, users have access to the trails and resources of the Susquehannock Forest.
3. **Allegheny River Greenway** – This greenway originates in Coudersport Borough and follows the Allegheny River to its headwaters in Allegheny Township and into McKean County. Greenway nodes along the way include Allegheny Headwaters, Coudersport Borough, and Village of Roulette.
4. **Shinglehouse Greenway Trail** – This trail would originate in Coudersport Borough and travel along SR 44 up to Conville where it would then follow the Oswayo Creek to Shinglehouse and Oswayo Borough. Greenway nodes include Coudersport Borough, Oswayo Borough, Millport (home of the Potter County Fair), and Shinglehouse Borough.
5. **Austin Dam Greenway** – The greenway originates in Austin Borough and follows Freeman Run out the Austin Dam Ruins. Greenway nodes along this trail include Austin Borough and the Austin Dam Park Ruins.
6. **Other Sites** – During the public participation process, residents identified potential trail consisting of abandoned rail beds. Newfield Junction area was identified as one potential area that could benefit from a greenway or rail to trail.

The proposed greenways are graphically shown on Map 9-1.



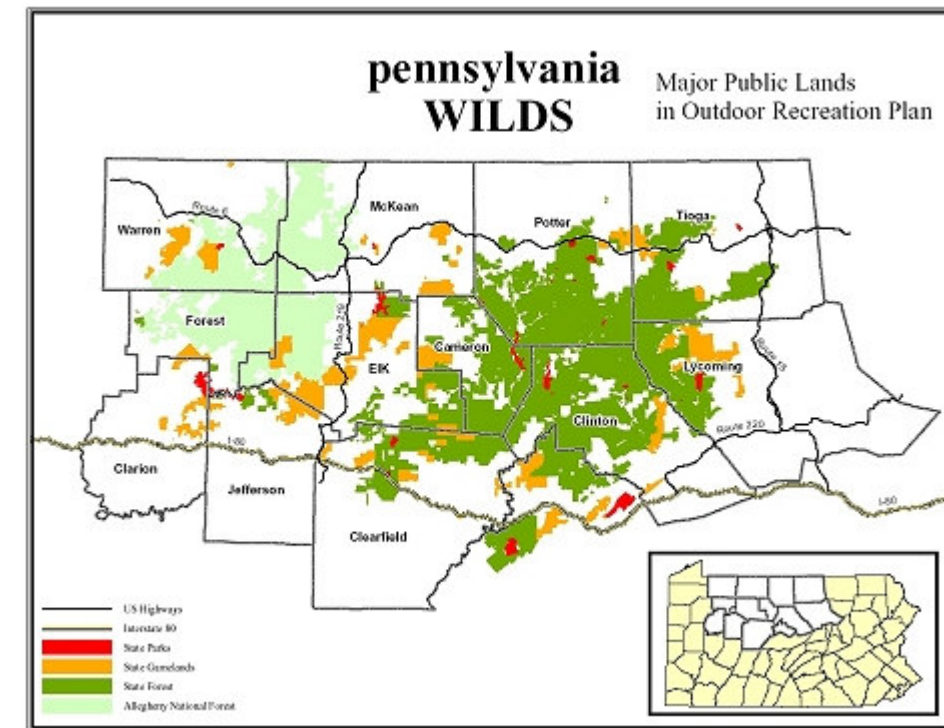
Pennsylvania Wilds

Imagine more than two million acres to roam on public lands set aside for your enjoyment. This is the Pennsylvania Wilds. Covering 12 counties in Northcentral Pennsylvania, this region includes:

- More than 1.5 million acres of state forest and game lands
 - 27 state parks
 - the 500,000-acre Allegheny National Forest
 - Pine Creek Gorge
 - the largest elk herd in the Northeast
- hundreds of miles of backpacking trails, bike paths, trout fishing streams

- the darkest skies in the East at Cherry Springs State Park

The Commonwealth is developing a strategy to encourage the growth of tourism and related businesses in Northcentral Pennsylvania based on these significant outdoor experiences.



The Governor’s Task Force on the Pennsylvania Wilds, led by DCNR, has begun an 18-month planning process to examine outdoor recreation resources, the region’s lumber heritage, opportunities for private concessions to support tourism; public facilities and staffing needed to support the Pennsylvania Wilds; and opportunities to stimulate purchase of Pennsylvania wood products and other local goods and services through tourism.

The goal is to enhance the visitor experiences in this region, while protecting and conserving these treasured natural resources. The focus includes improvements to the natural resources, infrastructure, and visitor services of the region. Efforts include:

- The Elk Scenic Drive—a 127-mile route through the region, with distinctive signage.
- Wildlife viewing areas and overlooks on public lands.
- Clean up of the West Branch of the Susquehanna River to improve fishing and water sport opportunities.
- A gateway center to the region.