

Live, Grow, Lead Healthy.

Adams,
Cumberland,
Franklin &
York Counties



**SOUTH MOUNTAIN
PARTNERSHIP**
CONSERVATION NETWORK

Click the numbers for
more information
about our programs!

FIRST-IN-PENNSYLVANIA STATE OF REGION PROJECT COMPLETION

funded,
facilitated,
and completed to show
how 16 public & environmental health
metrics are doing over 4 counties

25
local
ADVISORS

6
steering
COMMITTEES

5
environmental
CATEGORIES

3
actionable
DELIVERABLES

interactive
GIS mapping
 the report card
 decision maker
recommendations

240
ATTENDEES

brought together at three regional events to network & learn
a broad variety of initiatives and issues affecting the region



SIXTY

COMMITTEE MEMBERS / PARTNER ORGS
convened & led in conservation
and promotion activities



32
JOBS
POSTED
regional board

110
PARTNER
EVENTS
on calendar

29
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES
highlighted

Mini • Flex • Research Corps • **3**
GRANT
PROGRAMS



OVER
\$125,000
LOCALLY INVESTED
in contractors & projects

highlighted **22** at meetings
PARTNERS

68,686
REACH ON FACEBOOK

\$63,900
IN GRANTS
awarded to

- local government
- conservation groups
- academic institutions

8,600
UNIQUE WEBSITE VIEWS

We are a network of partners guiding the efforts
of the South Mountain Conservation Landscape.

southmountainpartnership.org

State of the Region



The South Mountain Partnership Conservation Network (SMP) developed the Commonwealth’s first-ever “State of the Region” project that includes a regional Report Card, GIS mapping, and final report that assesses public and environmental health across four counties and recommends ways to improve it. SMP staff facilitated extensive collaboration among four county planning agencies, as well as tourism, economic development, health, historical, outdoor recreation, agriculture, private business, and faith-based groups to create the unprecedented report and next steps that support wildlife and habitat, outdoor recreation, cultural resources, smart growth, and sustainable economic development.

SMP programming and funding will be adjusted to implement recommended actions and projects that were shown to us by the Report Card and interactive GIS mapping. In addition, the SMP will take on five of the recommendations and invites any group or individual interested to take on any of the remaining recommendations. The six recommended actions that SMP will take on include: updating Natural Heritage Inventories in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and York counties (underway); creating a Regional Multi Use Trail Coalition to accelerate expansion of regional trails and connectivity to parks and communities; plan for Wildlife Corridor(s) to connect South Mountain to the Kittatinny Ridge and PA Highlands; Inventory Historic Resources in the region; develop a system for tracking land conversion in coordination with county planning agencies.

Grants

GRANT PROGRAM	GRANTEE	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT AWARDED	LOCAL MATCH
Mini-Grants	Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	Observation Platforms at Letort Spring Garden Preserve	\$12,000.00	\$13,523.00
Mini-Grants	Cumberland County c/o Planning Department	Mt Holly Marsh Preserve - Master Site Plan Implementation, Phase 1	\$6,500.00	\$8,000.00
Mini-Grants	Keystone Trails Association	Trail Love Weekend: Michaux Edition	\$12,000.00	\$23,348.00
Mini-Grants	Shippensburg University Center for Land Use and Sustainability	Empowering Communities to Preserve Historic Resources in the South Mtn Region	\$12,000.00	\$21,839.00
Mini-Grants	Strawberry Hill Foundation	Maple Sugaring Program	\$5,000.00	\$13,947.00
Mini-Grants	Valley Traction Arts Collective	BioGas: The Musical	\$2,500.00	\$33,500.00
Flex Grants	Adams County Farmers Market Association	A Fresh Look for Fresh Produce: Rebranding the Adams County Farmers Market	\$1,000.00	\$500.00

continued on next page

GRANT PROGRAM	GRANTEE	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT AWARDED	LOCAL MATCH
Flex Grants	West Shore Wildlife Center	Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Growth	\$1,000.00	
Flex Grants	Bikelisle	Music on Bikes	\$1,000.00	
Flex Grants	Mainstreet Waynesboro Inc.	AT-Friendly Marketing Campaign	\$500.00	
Flex Grants	Paulus Farm Market	Paulus FarmPark Educational Signage	\$500.00	
Research Grants	IUP Research Institute	Lithic and Radiocarbon Analysis of the Green Cabin Quarry Site	\$2,900.00	\$3,026.06
Research Grants	The Pennsylvania State University on behalf of Penn State Mont Alto	Study for coliform bacteria presence in two South Mountain-originating roadside springs	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Research Grants	Shippensburg University	Water Chemistry of Cumberland Valley Springs in Vicinity of Big Spring	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Research Grants	Shippensburg University	Pollen Analysis & Radiocarbon Dating of a Vernal Pool on South Mountain	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00

SMP in the Community

You can find the South Mountain Partnership convening and supporting partners in a variety of other ways.

- Co-hosted **“Walk and Talk”** educational recreation events - *highlighting the work of core partners and previously funded projects*. In 2023 we explored Michaux State Forest, The Mount Tabor Preservation Project, and the Opposum Lakeside Trail.
- Hosted **Winter and Spring Meeting**, and a celebration of the **“Power of the Partnership”** event in the Fall.
- Launched and maintained an accessible and **user-friendly website** that highlights partner events, regional news, and funding opportunities.
- Deployed our **newsletter and social media** presence to spotlight partners.
- Supported the finalization of **Dillsburg Heart and Soul Project**.



Partnership Committee Members

WANT TO HELP?
Join a committee today!

Join us in thanking and recognizing these individuals who have shared so much of their time and wisdom with the Partnership.

Leadership Committee

Roy Brubaker	<i>Michaux State Forest</i>
Elizabeth Grant	<i>Cumberland County Planning</i>
Sarah Kipp	<i>Land Conservancy of Adams County</i>
Patti Nitterhouse	<i>Penn National</i>
Janet Pollard	<i>Franklin County Visitors Bureau</i>
Rob Thaeler	<i>Adams County Planning</i>
Steve Thomas	<i>Franklin County Planning</i>
Anne Walko	<i>York County Planning</i>
Stephanie Williams	<i>Cumberland County Planning</i>

Program Committee

Elizabeth Grant	<i>Cumberland County Planning</i>
Claire Jantz	<i>Shippensburg University: Center for Land Use and Sustainability</i>
Gwen Loose	<i>York County Rail Trail Authority</i>
Patti Nitterhouse	<i>Penn National</i>
Rob Thaeler	<i>Adams County Planning</i>
Onnolee Jansen	<i>PA DCNR</i>
Sarah Merritt	<i>PA Council on the Arts</i>
Brendan Salyards	<i>York County Economic Alliance</i>
Frank Grumbine	<i>Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission</i>

Communications Committee

John Canan	<i>Mountains and Rivers Photography</i>
Janet Pollard	<i>Franklin County Visitors Bureau</i>
Kristen Rowe	<i>Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation</i>
Melodie	
Anderson Smith	<i>Retired</i>
Courtney Gotham	<i>Volunteer</i>
Holly Tritt	<i>Keystone Trails Association</i>

Research Corps & Science Summit Committee

Claire Jantz	<i>Shippensburg University: Center for Land Use and Sustainability</i>
Aura Stauffer	<i>PA DCNR</i>
Joe Baker	<i>Retired</i>
Maria Bruno	<i>Dickinson College, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology</i>
Suzanne Hartley	<i>Michaux State Forest, PA DCNR</i>
Wesley Foltz	<i>Chambersburg Area Career Magnet School</i>
Larry Klotz	<i>Retired, Shippensburg University</i>
Holly Smith	<i>Shippensburg University: Center for Land Use and Sustainability</i>

State Of The Region Steering Committee

Cody Barnhart	<i>Franklin County Planning</i>
Quentin Clapper	<i>Franklin County Planning</i>
Elizabeth Grant	<i>Cumberland County Planning</i>
Patricia Newdeck	<i>PA DCNR</i>
Rob Thaeler	<i>Adams County Planning</i>
Steve Thomas	<i>Franklin County Planning</i>
Anne Walko	<i>York County Planning</i>
Stephanie Williams	<i>Cumberland County Planning</i>
Pam Shellenberger	<i>York County Planning</i>

Fundraising Action Team

Dan Brannen	<i>Strawberry Hill</i>
John Canan	<i>Mountains and Rivers</i>
Mike Eschenmann	<i>Retired</i>
Sarah Merritt	<i>PA Council on the Arts</i>
Janet Pollard	<i>Franklin County Visitors Bureau</i>

South Mountain Partnership Committees are networks of people that lead conservation efforts by providing strategic counsel, infrastructure, and organizational management. We can only operate through the support of diverse and active committees that move the organization forward through programming, communications, and special initiatives.





Thank You to Our Donors

Sponsors

Adams County Chapter Trout Unlimited

F&M Trust

Ghost Writer LLC

Cumberland County Economic Development

Franklin County Visitors Bureau, Inc.

Patti Peck

Friends of South Mountain Partnership

Melodie Anderson-Smith

Carmen James

Tyler Semder

John Barbis

Thomas Jolin

Wendy Smith

Steven Burg

Brook Lenker

Mary Soderberg

Julia Chain

Richard Lewis

Susan Swope

Cliff Frost

Sarah Merritt

Heidi Tucker

Elizabeth Grant

Mountains and Rivers Media

Bryan VanSweden

Chip Hayssen

Curt Musselman

Andre Weltman

Tracy Holliday

Eric Naylor

West Shore Wildlife

Donald Horn

Ploughman Cider

Gail Witwer

Kirsten Hubbard

Brendan Salyards



Currently, the Friends of the South Mountain Partnership fund yearly Flex Grants to the community in addition to supporting Partnership events and opportunities. Join us in thanking and recognizing these donors.

GET INVOLVED

Our Friends Group secures tax deductible donations from individuals and businesses to ensure the South Mountain Partnership is a resilient and powerful force for good in our region.

DONATE

Our Landscape Our Home

The South Mountain landscape is our home. And despite the different opinions, perspectives, and worldviews that each of us carry, we all share a common trait: we call the South Mountain landscape home. We believe in the power of this common ground to build conversation around the future of this landscape - and our future while living within this landscape. The South Mountain Partnership brings people together across geo-political and sectorial boundaries to highlight the importance of our landscape and take action to secure its future.

Partner with us to ensure a bright future for our home.



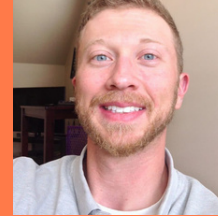
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MEET OUR TEAM

southmountainpartnership.org



The **South Mountain Partnership** is managed as a public-private partnership by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.