

Chapter V – Recreation Analysis

(Summary – See full *Wayne County Recreation, Parks and Natural Resource Plan* completed in 2022)

Executive Summary:

Wayne County, Pennsylvania, located in the northeast corner of the Commonwealth of PA with a total land area of just over 750 square miles, is the longest County north to south and contains more bodies of water than any of the other 66 counties in the State. These public and private lakes and ponds with their inter-connecting drainage of rivers and streams provide an abundance of water related recreational activities for both year-round residents and seasonal visitors to Wayne County.

The County-wide Recreation, Parks, and Natural Resources Plan was developed and prepared through grant funding support by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Professional services for the report were provided by the private consulting firm, Woodland Design Associates, Inc., in conjunction with local background resource information and technical review assistance from the Wayne County Planning/GIS Department.

Through the two-year development and study of this County-wide Plan, a total of nearly 300 existing and potential recreational sites were identified throughout the County's 22 townships and 6 boroughs under guidance received from the advisory committee, key community stakeholders, and local municipal outreach. The sites identified include existing municipal parks, County owned recreational land, State Forest, Game and Park lands, federal designated waterways as well as cultural, historic, and scenic waterfall locations.

The County Recreation, Parks, and Natural Resources Plan clearly defines 'Goals and Objectives', identifies County recreational planning needs, and recommends local, County, and State level opportunities to enhance recreation, natural resource access, and outdoor connections with the greater region.

When reviewing and utilizing this Plan for existing and potential future recreational opportunities, we encourage the reader to locate their area of interest within the 28 municipal detailed inventories. State funded grant opportunities and a clear, achievable Implementation Matrix have been compiled and listed on Pgs. 33 through 34.

The Wayne County Recreation, Parks and Natural Resource Plan is a 114-page inventory/report detailing all public recreation locations and opportunities inventoried across the entire County. Following the completion of the *Wayne County Recreation, Parks and Natural Resource Plan*, the County has taken the initiative to create an interactive digital map that visitors and residents can use to locate recreational opportunities more easily across the County. That map and its elements were compiled from the list of locations collected during the creation of the Plan. This list includes libraries, museums, excursions, trails, boat launches, campgrounds, and other points of interest. The digital version of this plan can be found on the Wayne County website.