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ADA

Americans with Disabilities Act is a civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in employment, State and local government services, public accommodations, commercial facilities, and transportation. It also mandates the establishment of TDD/telephone relay services.

ASA

Agricultural Security Area Program allows participating parcels to receive a variety of benefits such as protection from certain ordinance restrictions, limited protection from condemnation of land, and eligibility for agricultural conservation easement programs. Farmland owners voluntarily initiate the process to establish their land as an ASA.

Active Recreation

Active Recreation includes recreation activities that have a noticeable impact on the surrounding environment and are usually rigorously athletic and not quiet. May include individual or team sports, large picnics or playground activities, and recreational events with a high density of people. (See Passive Recreation)

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program is a County program that provides a mechanism for purchasing agricultural conservation easements from farmers in ASAs. County and State funds are used to purchase land development rights. The farmer maintains ownership of the land and can continue to farm it but cannot convert the land to non-farm use. The easement is held in perpetuity.

CDBG

Community Development Block Grant program works largely to ensure decent affordable housing for all, and to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, to create jobs and expand business opportunities. CDBG is an important tool in helping local governments tackle the most serious challenges facing the communities. The program is administered through Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

CSA

Community Supported Agriculture is a partnership of mutual commitment between a farm and a community of supporters which provides a direct link between the production and consumption of food. Supporters cover a farm's yearly operating budget by purchasing a share of the season's harvest. CSA members make a commitment to support the farm throughout the season, and assume the costs, risks and bounty of growing food along with the farmer or grower. Members help pay for seeds, fertilizer, water, equipment maintenance, labor, etc. In return, the farm provides, to the best of its ability, a healthy supply of seasonal fresh produce throughout the growing season.

Community Conservation Partnership Program

Community Conservation Partnership Program is Pennsylvania's financial partnership program that provides funding and technical assistance for jurisdictions and other partners in park, recreation, open space, greenways, and trails. The program is administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Conservation

Conservation is the management of land or resources for specific objectives or outcomes through specified or generally accepted methods, practices, and techniques, generally without specified timelines

DCNR

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is charged with maintaining and preserving the 116 state parks; managing the 2.1 million acres of state forest land; providing information on the state's ecological and geologic resources; and establishing community conservation partnerships with grants and technical assistance to benefit rivers, trails, greenways, local parks and recreation, regional heritage parks, open space and natural areas.

DEP

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection is charged with protection of Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment. DEP partners with individuals, organizations, governments and businesses to prevent pollution and restore natural resources.

FEMA

Federal Emergency Management Agency is an independent agency of the federal government, reporting to the President. Since its founding in 1979, FEMA's mission has been: to reduce loss of life and property and protect our nation's critical infrastructure from all types of hazards through a comprehensive, risk-based, emergency management program of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

FOCCA

Future of Cumberland County Agriculture is an active community-based program exploring the needs and future of farming in the County. The program is administered through the Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County.

Floodway

Floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent flood plain areas that must be kept free of encroachment in order that the 100-year flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

GIS

Geographic Information System is computerized mapping that functions as a tool to store, analyze, and display information about places.

Greenways

Greenways are corridors of protected public and private land established along rivers, streams valleys, ridges, abandoned rail corridors, utility rights-of-ways, canals, scenic roads, or other linear features. They link recreational, cultural, and natural features; provide pathways for people and wildlife; protect forests, wetlands, and grasslands; and improve the quality of life for everyone.

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Hydric Soils

Hydric Soils are soils that are saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions that favor the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation (US Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service 1985, as amended by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils in December 1986).

MPC

Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code is a state act that empowers jurisdictions to plan and institute regulations for land use.

NAI

Natural Areas Inventory documents the known outstanding natural features of flora, fauna, and geology in the County. The inventory provides maps of natural communities and locations of animals and plant species of special concern.

NRCS

National Resource Conservation Service, formerly known as the National Soil Conservation Service, is a division of the US Department of Agriculture. NRCS provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

NRPA

National Recreation and Park Association is the national organization that serves to advance parks, recreation, and environmental and conservation efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people.

NWI

The National Wetlands Inventory of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service produces information on the characteristics, extent, and status of the Nation's wetlands and deepwater habitats. The NWI maps of wetlands are widely referenced.

Open Space

Open Space in Cumberland County includes public or private lands and waters that fulfill one or more of the following functions: agricultural land preservation; preservation of wetlands, aquifer recharge areas, and other sensitive areas; conservation of natural areas including forestlands, surface water, and wildlife habitat; protection for greenways, access to streams, and scenic corridors; provision for outdoor recreational activity; protection of buffers around and within developed areas; and conservation of cultural and historic resources.

PNDI

Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory is a data system that provides information on outstanding natural habitat types, sensitive plant and animal species, and heron rookeries.

Passive Recreation

Passive Recreation includes recreation activities that are usually quiet and not rigorously athletic, and have a low impact on the surrounding environment. May include walking, hiking, fishing, bird watching, and quiet picnicking. (See Active Recreation)

Preservation

Preservation is the permanent dedication or reservation of land or resources for a specific use; often attained through public entity or land trust ownership or through property deed restriction

Prime Farmland

Prime Farmland is land that is best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and water supply needed to economically produce a sustained yield of crops when it is treated and managed using acceptable farming methods (U.S. Department of Agriculture). Prime Farmland in Cumberland County includes Class I and Class II soils. (See Soil Classifications)

Protection

Protection is a general term for either preservation or conservation when ownership, management objectives and timelines are not specified

Soil Classifications

Soil Classifications of the USDA Capability Groups of Soils is a grouping of soils to show, in a general way, their suitability for most kinds of farming.

- **Class I Soils** have few limitations that restrict their use.
- **Class II Soils** have some limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require moderate conservation practices.
- **Class III Soils** have severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require special conservation practices, or both.
- **Class IV – VIII Soils** have severe limitation that require careful management or are unsuitable for cultivation.

TDR

Transfer of Development Rights programs use market forces to simultaneously promote conservation in high value natural, agricultural, and open space areas while encouraging smart growth in developed and developing sections of a community. Successful TDR programs have been in place since 1980 and have protected tens of thousands of acres of farmland and open space throughout the country. In a TDR program, a community identifies an area within its boundaries that it would like to see protected from development (the sending zone) and another area where the community desires more urban style development (the receiving zone). Landowners in the sending zone are allocated a number of development credits that can be sold to developers, speculators, or the community itself. In return for selling their development credits, the landowner in the sending zone agrees to place a permanent conservation easement on his or her land. Meanwhile, the purchaser of the development credits can apply them to develop at a higher density than otherwise allowed on property within the receiving zone.

Water Quality Standards

Water Quality Standards of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA Code Title 25 Environmental Protection). Protected Use categories:

- **CWF – Cold Water Fishes** – maintenance and/or propagation of fish species including the family Salmonidae and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a cold water habitat.

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- **WWF - Warm Water Fishes** – Maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.
- **TSF - Trout Stocking** – Maintenance of stocked trout from February 15 to July 31 and maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.
- **HQ - High Quality Waters** – A stream or watershed which has excellent quality waters and environmental or other features that require special water quality protection.
- **EV - Exceptional Value Waters** – A stream or watershed which constitutes an outstanding national, State, regional or local resource, such as waters of national, State or county parks or forests, or waters which are used as a source of unfiltered potable water supply, or waters of wildlife refuges or State game lands, or waters which have been characterized by the Fish Commission as "Wilderness Trout Streams", and other waters of substantial recreational or ecological significance.

Wetlands

Wetlands are those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetland are identified by unique soils (hydric soils), by plants adapted to life in wet environments (hydrophytic vegetation) and by the presence of water (hydrology) during the growing season.