

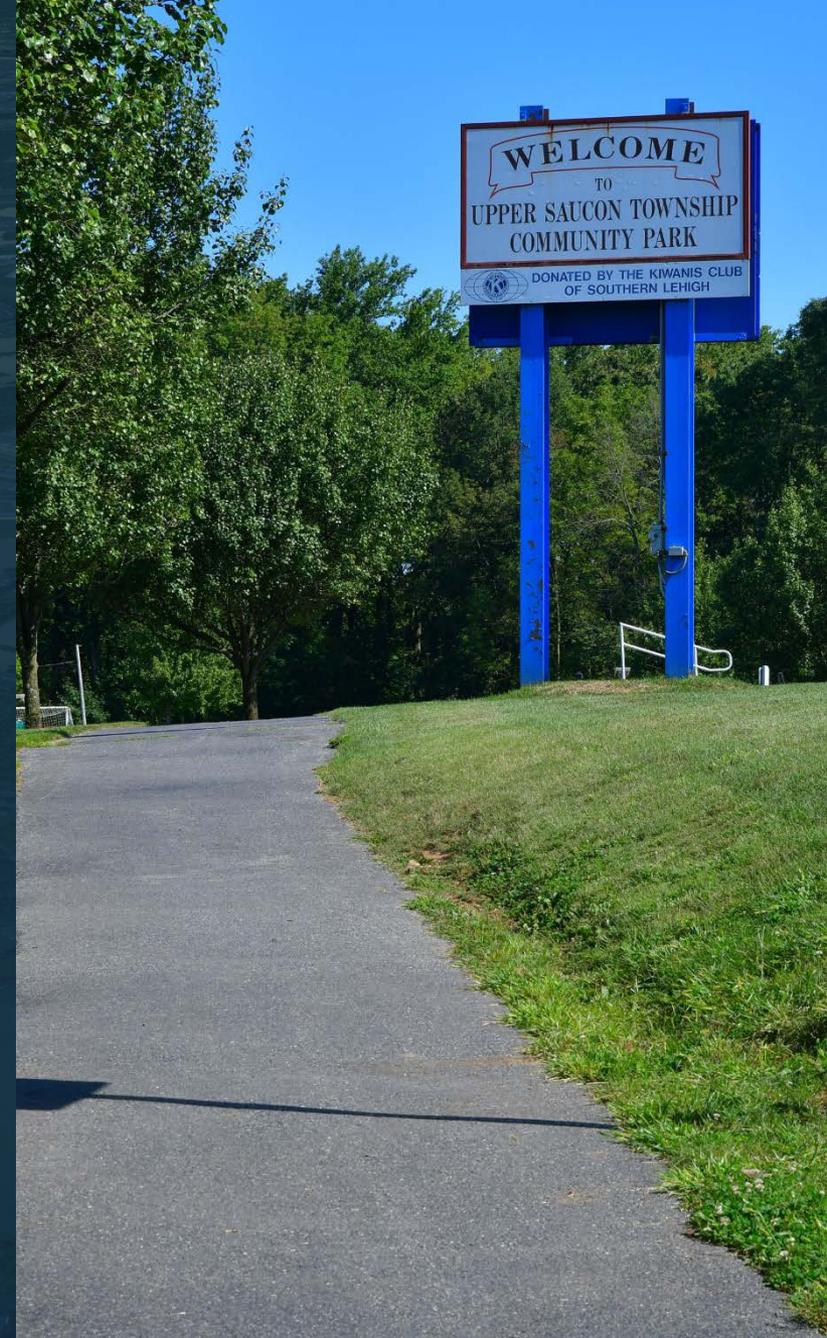
UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP

Comprehensive Recreation Plan & Open Space Plan



Patrick Stasio, CPRP

- **Project Team introductions**
- **Consultant Experience**
- **The need for the plan**
- **Project schedule / Project scope**
- **Township Tour**
- **Data gathered so far**
- **Possible goals**
- **Brainstorming session**
 - **Project goals, facts, and concepts**
- **Next steps**



The Consultants

Peter M. Simone, RLA, FASLA, Principal
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Pankaj (PJ) Jobanputra, AICP, Project Manager / Planner
pjobanputra@simonecollins.com

Geoffrey Creary, Landscape Architect / Trail Designer
gcreary@simonecollins.com

Rob Gladfelter, Project Landscape Architect
rgladfelter@simonecollins.com

Pat Stasio, Certified Park & Recreational Professional

Township Contacts

Patrick M. Leonard, Special Projects Coordinator
610.282.1171 ext 1222

Patricia Lang, AICP, Director of Community Development
610.282.1171 ext 1237

The Committee

Phil Spaeth – Township Supervisor

Kimberly Stehlik – Township Supervisor

Todd Bergey – Southern Lehigh School District

John Inglis – Park and Recreation Commission, Vice Chair

Thomas Gettings – Environmental Advisory Council, President

Robert Kassel – Resident

Lloyd Ohl – Resident

Bridget Graver – Resident (Soccer League)

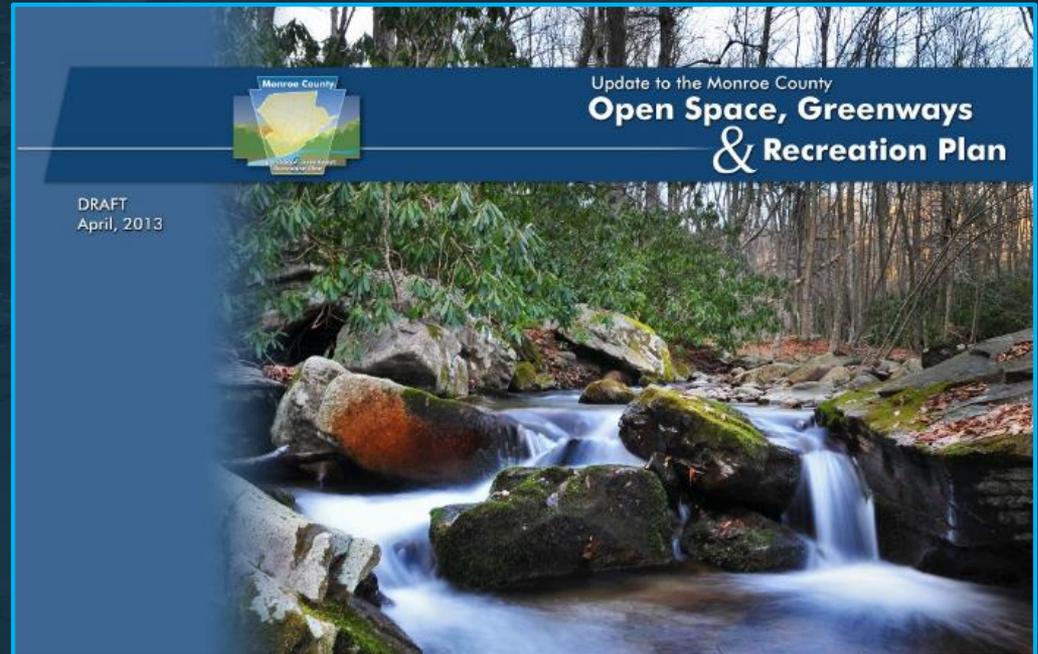
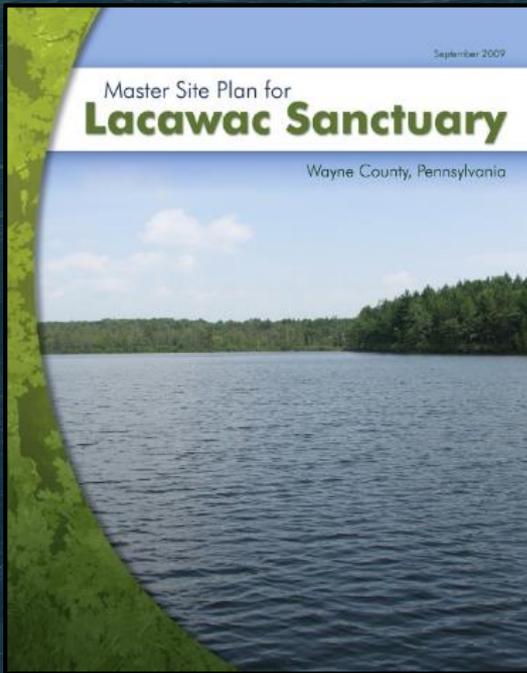
Chris Wayock – Resident (Lacrosse League)

Simone Collins Landscape Architecture

- Founded in 1990
- 29 year firm history / 40+ year principal's experience.
- 43 design awards from a wide variety of professional organizations
- Parks and Recreations, Trails, Greenways & Connectivity – primary areas of SC practice
- Extensive experience with DCNR funded projects
- \$25M in successful grant applications

Pat Stasio's (CPRP) – Director of Parks and Recreation for Upper Moreland Township for 21 years, and served in Municipal Park management industry for more than 30 years.





Why Complete a Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan?

- Plan for current needs and future growth of Upper Saucon's parks, open space, and recreation system
- Everybody needs & wants parks, trails and open space
- The community facilities are essential green infrastructure that provide physical, spiritual & health benefits
- Makes your community competitive to attract businesses & residents
- Can be utilized as a planning tool to guide decision making for the Township for the next 10 to 20 years for improved facilities, non-motorized connectivity (trails), preserve open space and enhance recreational programming, maintenance and staffing.

Why Complete a Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan?

We recognize that a Township's park and recreation facilities are the most visible component of local government. More residents will have more interactions with Upper Saucon Township through parks and recreation than any other part of township facilities and programs.

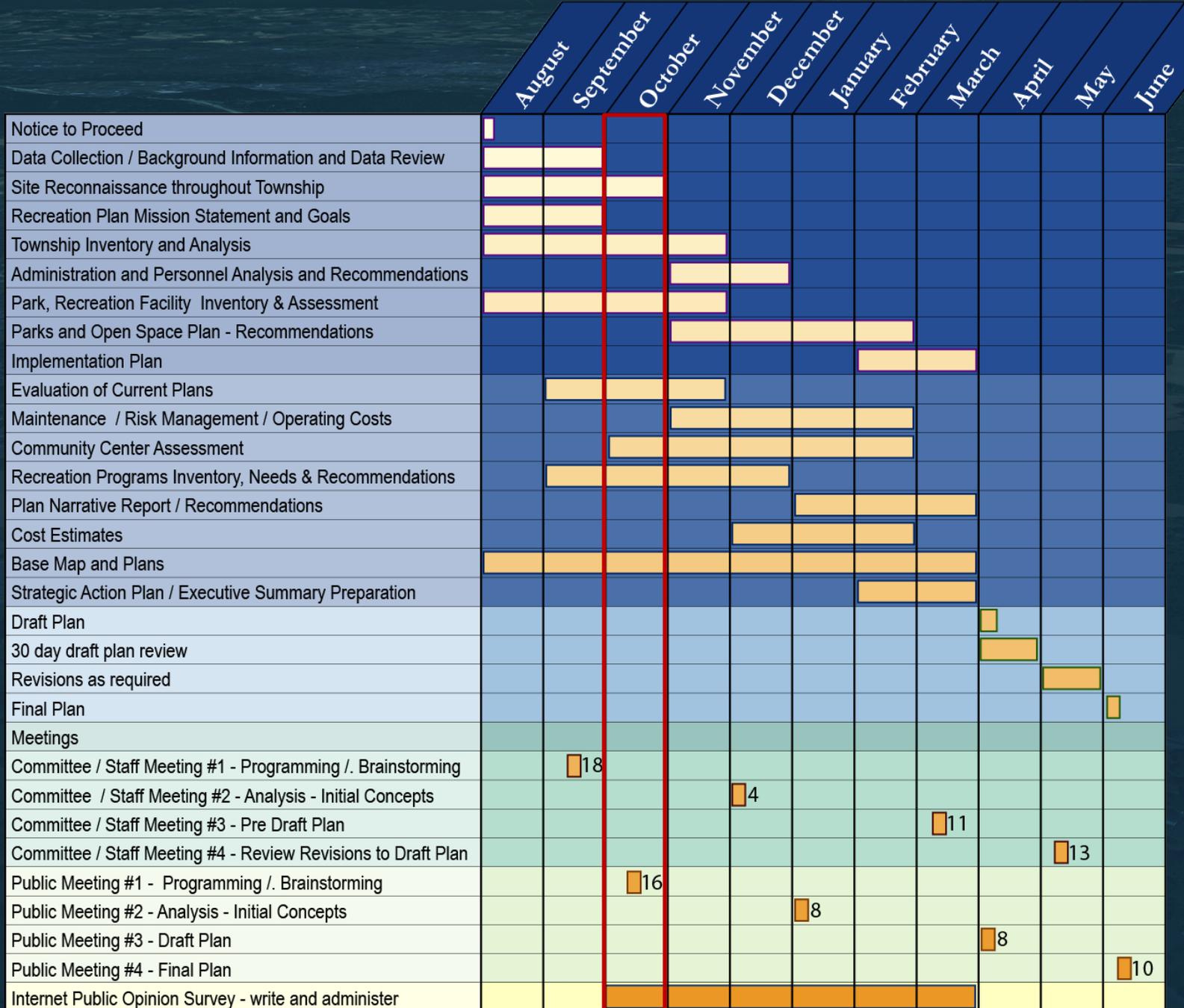


What are the most important components of a comprehensive park, recreation and open space plan?

Public participation is usually the most important part of the plan. We conduct our public participation process in a manner where *“every voice is heard and all ideas are honored.”*

Our role is to be your guides through this dynamic process. As you plan for the next 10 to 20 + years, we will present you with information, options and recommendations. You will make the decisions for your plan.

Project Schedule



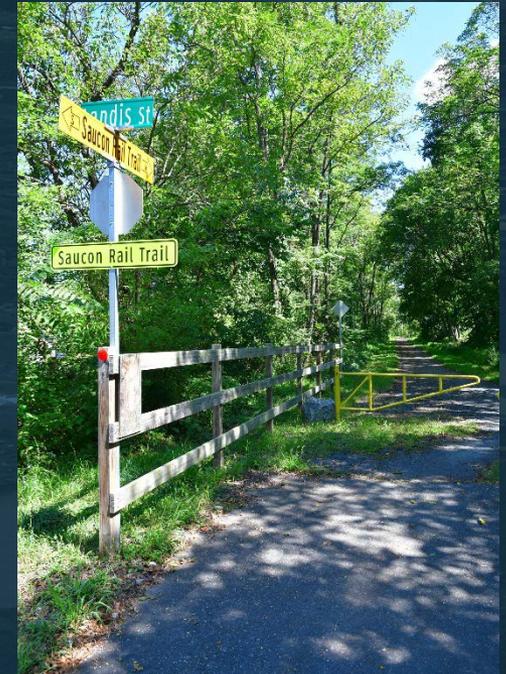
Public Meeting 1

- Existing conditions inventory and data collection
- Activities and facilities analysis
- Site reconnaissance
- Public participation
 - 4 committee meetings
 - 4 public meetings
 - Key persons interview
 - Public opinion survey
- Vision goals and objectives
- Report with recommendations for open space, recreational facilities and programming, and multi-modal and greenway connections
- Implementation strategies
- Regulations, management, planning and financing





Sidewalk by high school



Saucon Rail Trial



Underpass to Public Library



Saucon Rail Trial
Public Meeting 1

Upper Saucon Township Community Park

- Southern Lehigh Public Library
- Playground and tot lot
- 3 full sized soccer fields
- 1 adult baseball field
- 1 softball/baseball field
- 5 multi-use fields
- 2 basketball courts
- Large picnic pavilion
- Restroom facilities
- Approx. 2 miles of trails



Township Parks –Upper Saucon Community Park

Township Tour



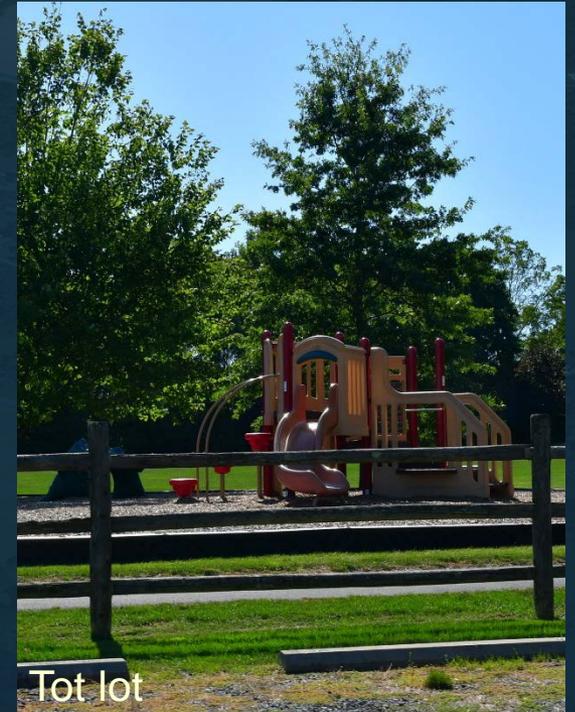
On-site Storage



Multi-use field



Ball field



Tot lot

Future Hopewell Road Park

- Construction has started – expected completion in 2021
- 4 multi-use fields
- 1 softball/baseball field
- 2 volleyball courts
- 3 basketball courts
- Tot lot
- Restroom facilities
- Pavilion
- Amphitheater



Southern Lehigh School District

Southern Lehigh High School, Middle School, and Intermediate School

- 4 softball/baseball fields
- 8 tennis courts
- 5 multi-use fields
- 2 basketball courts
- Track
- Stadium
- Playground

Hopewell Elementary

- playground



Hopewell Elementary School



Tennis courts at the high school

Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park

- Run by VFW
- Playground
- 7 baseball/softball fields
- Basketball court
- Tennis/pickleball court
- Volleyball court
- Outdoor pavilions
- Skate park equipment
- Community building



Southern Lehigh Pool (SOLECO)

- Run by Frank Banko Southern Lehigh Community Pool Association
- Large outdoor community pool
- Home of Stingrays swim team
- Recently updated bathhouse



Google Earth

Swim-In Zone

- Indoor pool for lessons, parties/events, and membership swimming



Private Amenities

Additional Private Recreation

- **Moyers Lake** – campground and 10-acre no license fishing lake
- **Limeport Stadium** – adult baseball field
- **Jewish Community Center Camp** outdoor swimming pool, basketball courts, ball field, skate park area, gaga pit, multi-use field and hiking trails.



Moyers Lake



Limeport Stadium



JCC Camp

Additional Private Recreation

- Wedgewood Golf Course – public golf course
- Putt U Mini Golf – 2 mini golf courses
- Saucon Valley Country Club – Private club with golf, swimming pools, racquet courts, playground, basketball court, shuffle board court, volleyball court, and nature trails.



Wedgewood Golf Course



Saucon Valley Country Club



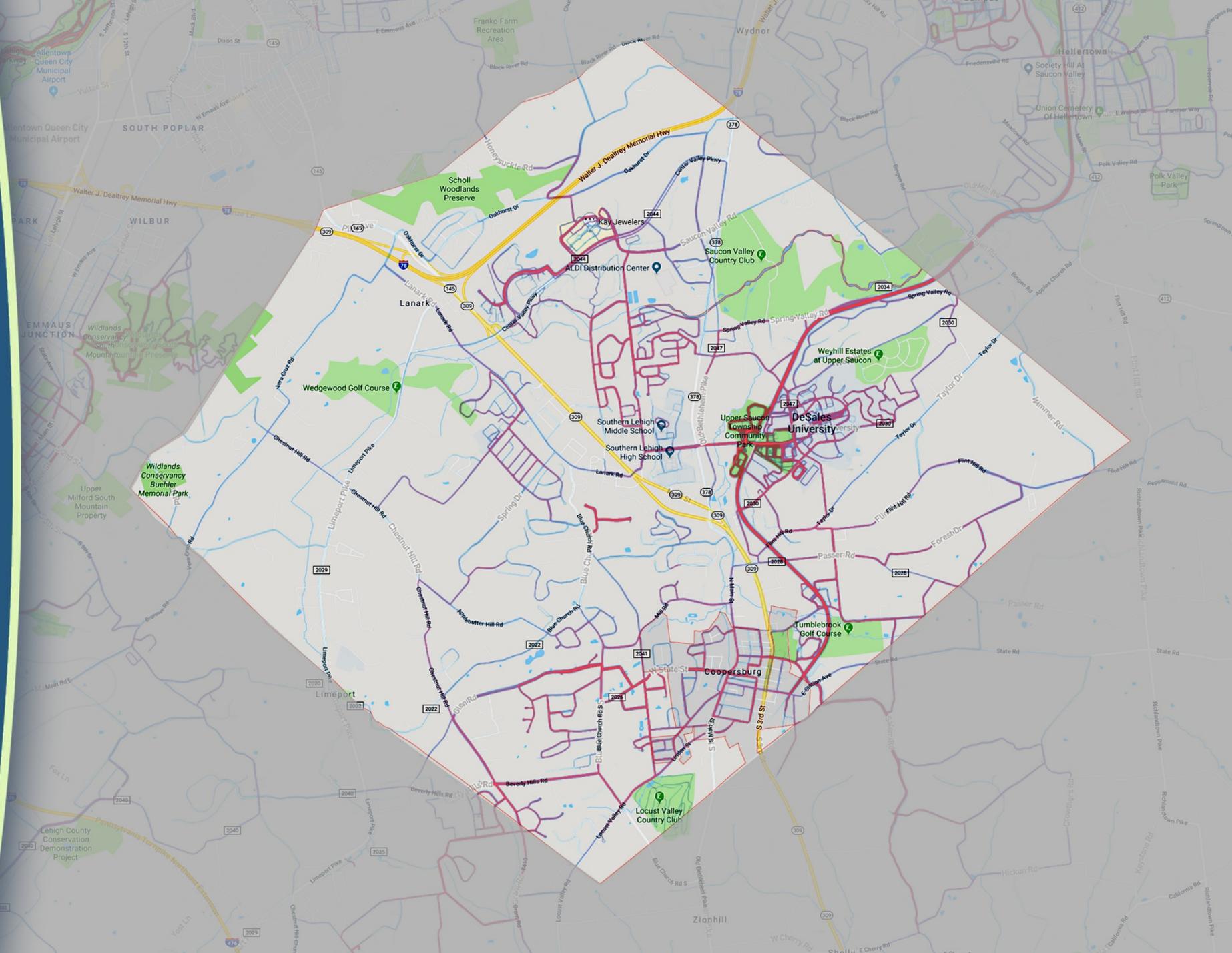
Putt U Mini Golf

Preserved Open Space

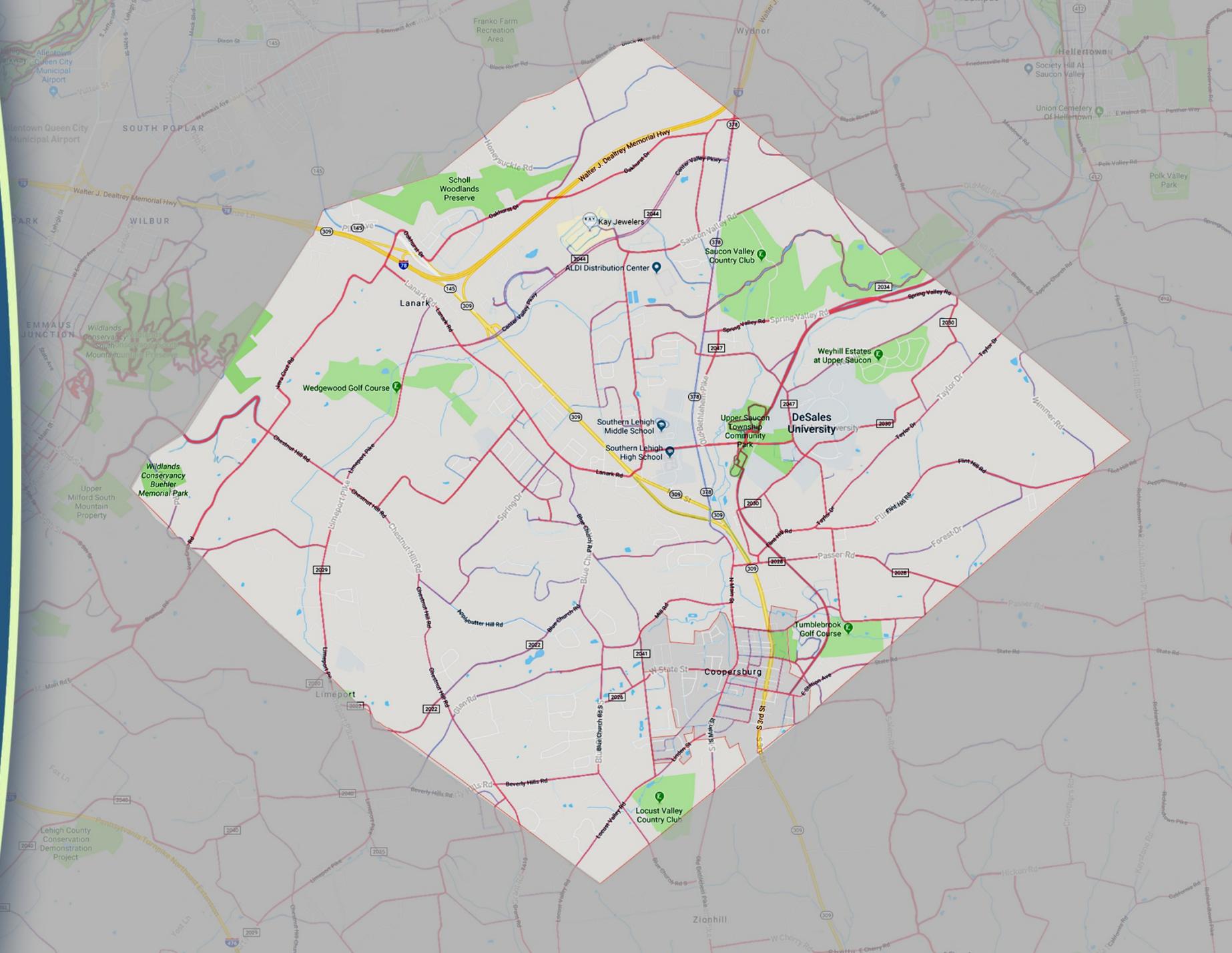
- Scholl Woodlands Preserve / Big Rock Park – Lehigh County
- Buehler Memorial Park – Wildlands Conservancy
- South Mountain Preserve – Wildlands Conservancy
- Mill Road Wetlands – Township
- 10 Preserved Farms – 381 acres



STRAVA Run Heat Map



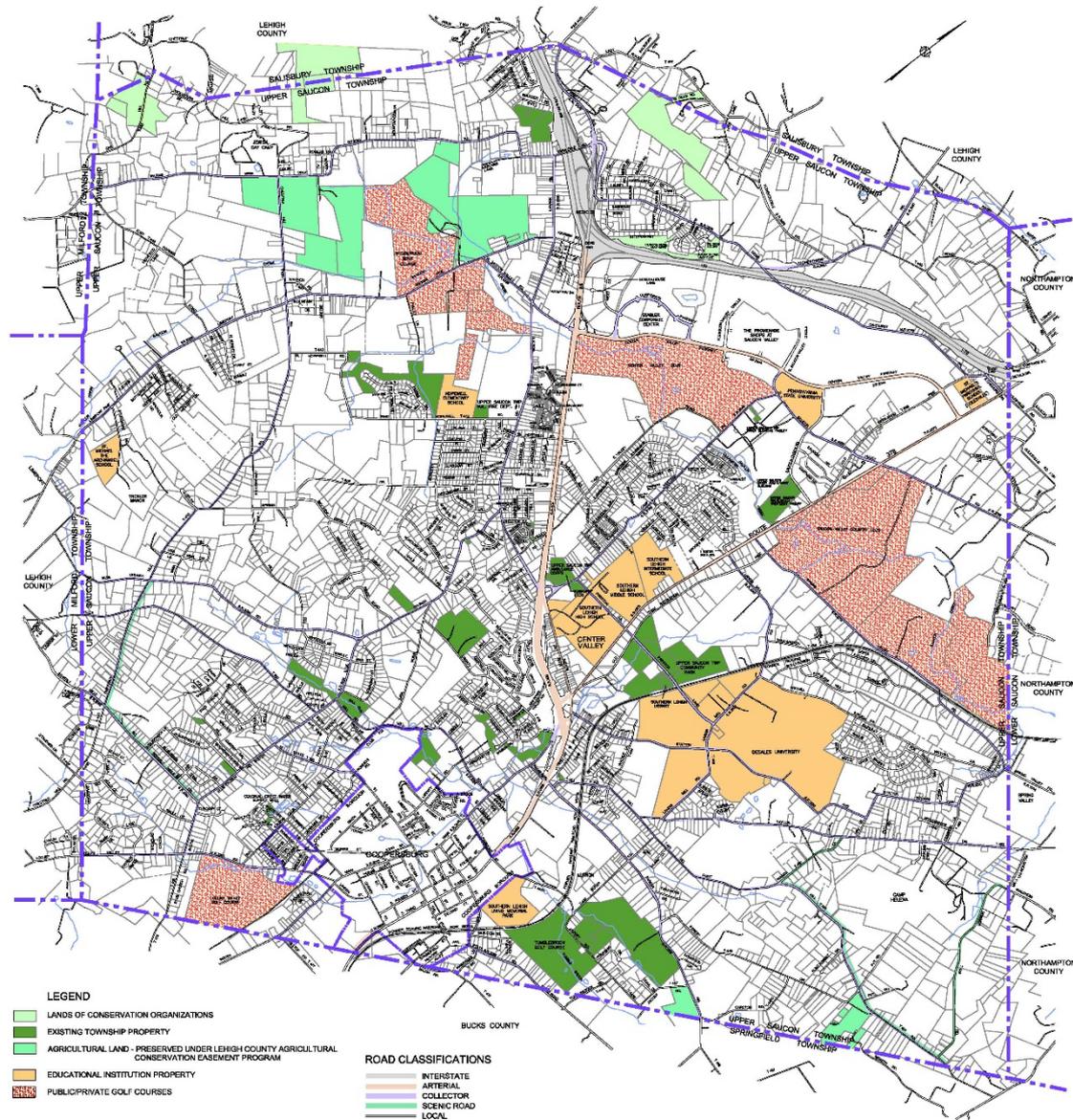
STRAVA Bike Heat Map



Official Map, 2009

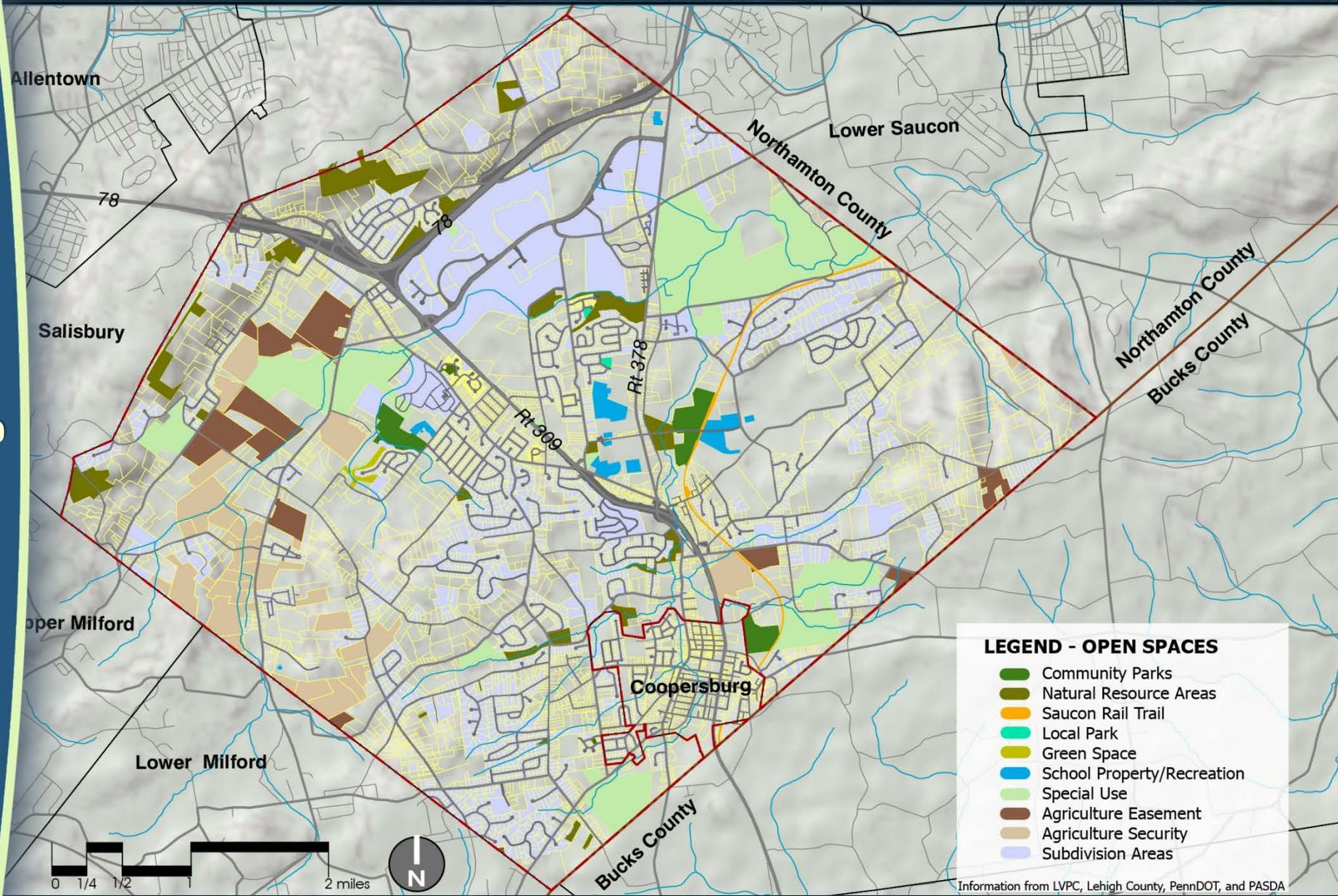
Provide information of

- Existing natural features
- Existing parks, recreation, and preserved open space
- Lands under consideration for future conservation and Township recreation



Open Spaces of Upper Saucon Township

Existing Data



LEGEND - OPEN SPACES

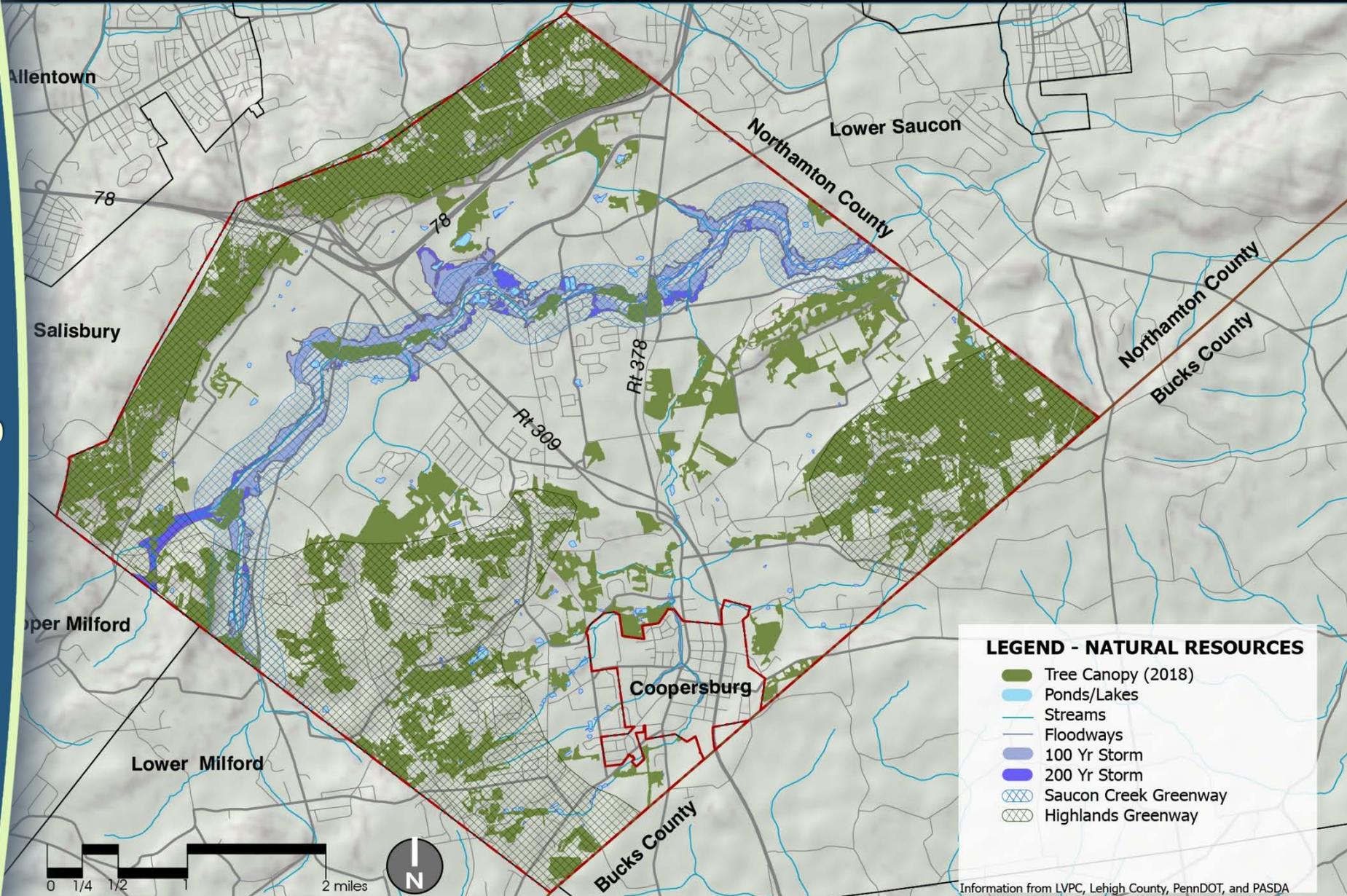
- Community Parks
- Natural Resource Areas
- Saucon Rail Trail
- Local Park
- Green Space
- School Property/Recreation
- Special Use
- Agriculture Easement
- Agriculture Security
- Subdivision Areas



Information from LVPC, Lehigh County, PennDOT, and PASDA

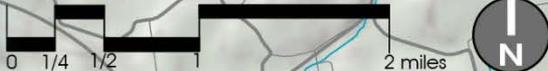
Natural Resources of Upper Saucon Township

Existing Data



LEGEND - NATURAL RESOURCES

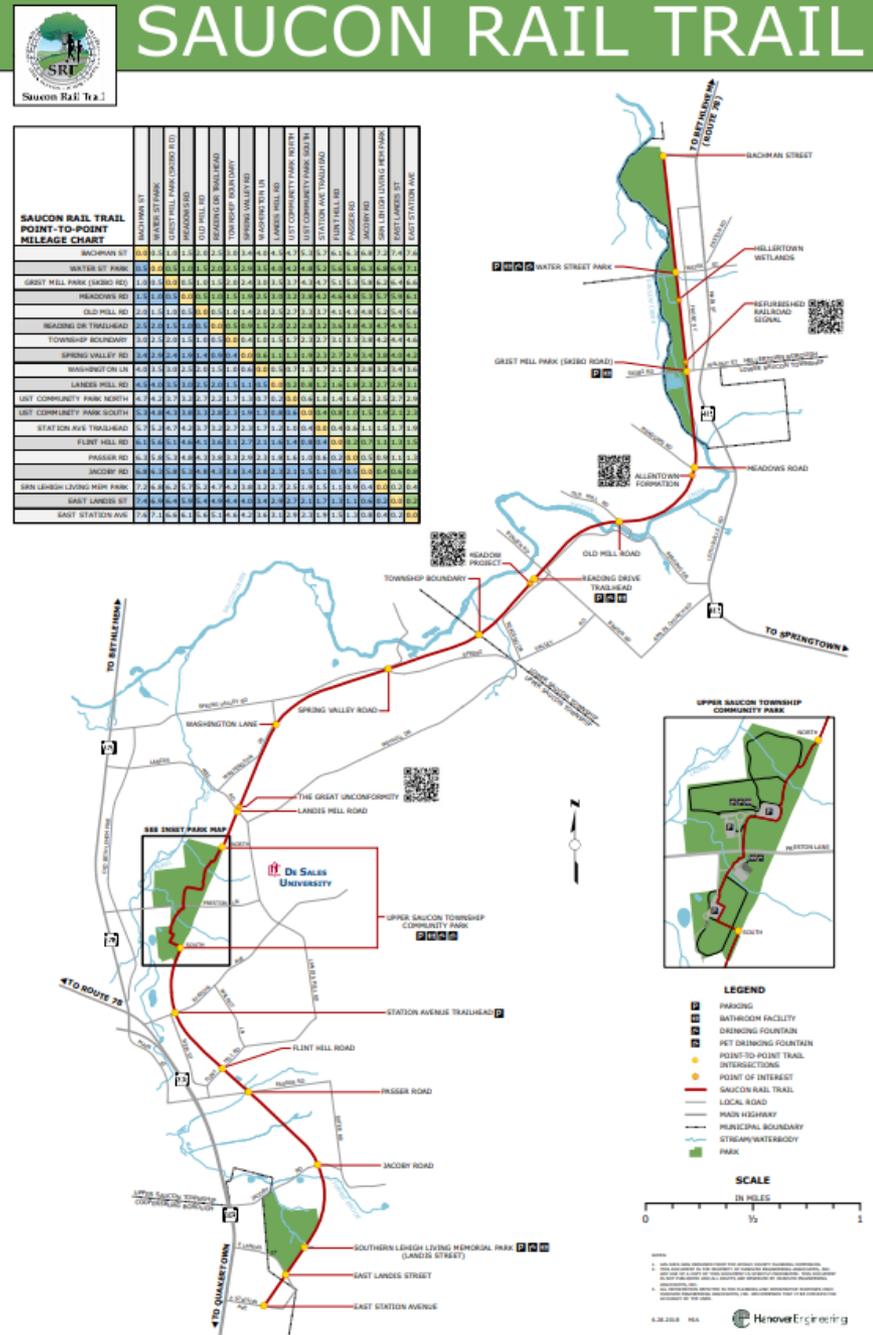
- Tree Canopy (2018)
- Ponds/Lakes
- Streams
- Floodways
- 100 Yr Storm
- 200 Yr Storm
- Saucon Creek Greenway
- Highlands Greenway



Information from LVPC, Lehigh County, PennDOT, and PASDA

Build on the success of the Saucon Rail Trail

- Where are the most important destinations / connections?
- What routes are runners and cyclists presently utilizing and could they connect into the Rail Trail?
- What is the long range outlook for the Western part of the township regarding future trails?



“Permanently protect areas of open space for passive recreation, habitat protection and enhancement of community character”

- What are the types of future open space lands that are the most important for the Township to consider? What is the criteria for evaluation? How do we balance growth with OS protection?
- What is the impact of protected open space on adjacent land owners?
- Are there opportunities for public/private partnerships that can provide open space still developing community?
- What kind of tools should be used to preserve open space (acquisition, easements, Official Map, dedicated fund)?



“Is there a need for a Community Center? If so, what type of center is warranted and what types of facilities should it contain?”

- **What private sector recreational providers currently serve residents?**
- **How do School District facilities help to address (or not address) indoor recreational needs?**
- **Is the full range of indoor recreational activities being met ?**
- **Could the Township address unmet needs through the development of a Community Center?**

Your Ideas, Comments, Suggestions...

GOALS

Goals for the project — initially broad, then specific: “Develop Priority List” or “Provide Park, Recreation, and Open Space for all ages”

Facts - Existing land use, site conditions, outstanding natural resources, adjacent properties, existing trails, nearby open space sites, partners.

FACTS

CONCEPTS

Ideas for attaining project goals - “Connect to existing trail systems”, or “Safer routes for biking”
“Develop Mission Statement”

Your Ideas, Comments, Suggestions...

GOALS

**PROVIDE
FOR ALL AGES**

**ESTABLISH
PRIORITIES**

**PRESERVE
RESOURCES**

FACTS

**NEW HOPEWELL
PARK IS BEING
CONSTRUCTED NOW**

EXISTING TRAILS

**EXISTING
PLAYFIELDS**

CONCEPTS

**EXPAND
WALKING TRAILS**

DOG PARK

**“50 FOOT
TALL WATER
SLIDE”**

PARTNERS

DCNR

COUNTY

**LOCAL
BUSINESSES**

Next Meetings

Committee Meeting 2

December 4th

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Public Meeting 2

January 8th

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Online Public Participation Survey will be available on:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UpperSaucon>



WikiMapping

Share data on a map | Survey tools for public input

Wiki Mapping



We need a trail to the Promenade Shops

Consider this parcel for open space acquisition.

wikimapping.com/Upper-Saucon-Open-Space.html

Will be available after Public Meeting #1

Public Meeting 1

Thank you

Contact information

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