

Land and Trail Tracking System

The goal of the Land and Trail Tracking System is to provide a tool that will focus on land protection and trail development within the PA Highlands by presenting a landscape view and detailed information of each township and county. Acreage of protected lands and miles of trails within the PA Highlands is available via the interactive map and county directories. Information provided includes the number of acres protected within each municipality and county, acres protected after 2012 (beginning of this project), percentage of each municipality that is protected (county directories only), and trail mileage.

The protected lands are comprised of privately conserved lands through fee and easement, as well as publicly accessible open space such as federal, state, and municipal park lands. Trails included are regional multi-use, local hiking and pedestrian trails, as well as state designated water trails.

The protected lands and trails data layers were derived from public data files, purchased from county planning commissions, or shared by conservation organizations. However, the protected lands data is not fully complete due to copyright restrictions. Because the protection of open space and the development of trails are constantly evolving, the information on this website is a snapshot of the status of protected lands and miles of trails as of December 2020.

Protected Lands

Protected lands are organized into public and non-public fee and easement lands. Privately conserved lands through fee and easement include non-profit conservation lands, agricultural easements, and conservation easements. For government owned lands open space (not developed), recreation/park lands (recreation areas, playgrounds, athletic fields and swimming pools), state game lands and forests were included.

Lands not included are federal, state, county or municipal lands containing buildings, parking lots, sewage plants, fenced (not open to the public), water authority parcels, and other areas, as well as privately owned athletic fields and complexes, playgrounds, playlot recreation areas/ neighborhood centers, church camps, day camps, scout camps, playgrounds, playlot, golf courses, and school parks/recreation areas.

Land and Water Trails

Trails included are regional multi-use, local hiking and pedestrian trails, as well as state designated water trails. Regional hiking trails are within a minimum of three municipalities. Local hiking and pedestrian trails are within one or two municipalities. Hiking trails may include sections located on roads or sidewalks. For information on additional paddling opportunities in the Pennsylvania Highlands, please visit our [Water Resources Interactive Map](#).

Trails not included are biking routes, ATV trails, only on sidewalks or roads, short street connector trails, and lone trails less than 500ft.